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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

TO THE 82ND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Adyar, December 26, 1957

BY N. SRI RAM, *President*

SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

It is with great happiness that I welcome you to Adyar and to this 82nd Convention of the Society. We are again meeting at Adyar for special reasons and not because of any policy of departure from the practice of holding our annual Conventions ordinarily in alternation at Adyar and Vārānasi. I pray that while you are here you may enjoy in an abundant measure that peace and upliftment which are ever to be found in this place, regarded as the Masters' Home by our late revered President, Dr. Annie Besant.

We come to a Convention such as this in a spirit of dedication to a cause which we might well regard as the highest one can conceive, a cause which, when it prevails, will bring manifold blessing to humanity. We come here not merely to transact the Society's annual business, to have talks and discussions on important subjects, but also to steep ourselves while we are here in the atmosphere of a Wisdom which represents the highest and fullest truth that the human intellect can compass, withal a Wisdom which has a

vital bearing on every aspect of our living. The purer the truth, the deeper it is, the more it penetrates, when one is open to it, into every recess of one's being. There is no single aspect of one's thought or action which it then does not modify and transform.

There are many ways of service needed and open in the conditions that obtain today, many matters with regard to which a change is urgently needed. All these undoubtedly call for our support, and when possible, our participation having regard to one's capacities, circumstances and special responsibilities. Yet above every change in external conditions, every activity of reform, whether political, social or any other, there is the need radically to change and reform oneself. For as is the individual, so is the world, and we do well and most effectively when we begin at that end which is ourselves. There are many Theosophists all over the world today, not to speak of those who have gone before, who can testify to the fact that because of Theosophy and its inspiration they are different from what they would have been otherwise. So

completely does the Wisdom transform our viewpoint and every relationship in life, if it be not mere words but an understanding which touches the depths of our being, that the change amounts to nothing less than a revolution. Revolution is a word which has left large trails in history. But what is needed is not a revolution in the ordinary sense, which is but a senseless play of violence, an eruption of blind elemental forces, based on the reaction of every suppressed element, but a revolution of renewal, restoration and beauty such as takes place in Nature when life that has been asleep begins to awake, and every tree, having put off its out-worn clothing, puts on a garb of fresh green leaves and blossom. The word "revolution" is not inapt to describe so complete a change, whether in Nature or in man, which is wrought by a process that seems to uncoil depths of different sorts till then latent and asleep.

In the face of the need that obviously exists for some central change from which all other desirable changes will ensue, should there not be one organization such as the Theosophical Society, including men and women of every religion, nationality and race, of every temperament, the simple as well as the learned, to stand, however inadequately, for this aim? But because the aim is a change in the individual, the organization as such, apart from its members, can play only an accessory part. Just as when we say Beauty, the call is to the individual to respond to that beauty, so does Wisdom, though it can be applied to corporate affairs, call first for an individual awakening. A change that involves one's whole being cannot be brought about by methods such as are used to acquire mere learning; it has to begin at a deeper level than that at which we make our mental dispositions. There has to be released in the individual a current that creating for

itself an open field operates to bring about a close relation between him and all else that exists. We put what we know or feel to be the truth in such words as are available; but the words by themselves or any verbal understanding makes only one layer among many other layers that constitute those settled parts of ourselves from which we habitually act. What is needed to guide us to a living appreciation of Truth, which is a truth about ourselves and life in general, is an inward approach that keeps us open to everything about us, including our fellowmen, an openness to understand and sympathize, which is true Brotherhood. Theosophy is in its outer form a synthesis of all that is true in any philosophy, religion or science, whether of the past or the present. But it is a truth of which the living essence has to be discovered in oneself. The Society exists to propagate the truth that can be stated in various forms; but first there must be a reflection of the truth to be realized in our own lives. The success of our work as a Society will depend not merely on the amount of propaganda we put out, the number of meetings and lectures at which we thresh out problems, but upon there being members in every part of the world who are wells of understanding, who are nuclei for the spiritual expressions of the movement and eager to do what is required of them individually.

Mr. James S. Perkins writes in his Report on the activities of the American Section that our members in some places are "too diffuse in their search for Truth, wandering at random along too many trails". When that is the case, one has to ask oneself: what is it that one is seeking? Is it some satisfaction for self, sensation of some sort, or is it the Truth, which alone can fill our hearts, because of the deep connection between what we are down here and the Truth which is basic to our existence.

Many thoughtful people, quite outside the Society, feel that humanity today has reached a turning-point. But we must realize that the turn it takes will depend not only on the few at the top and the military and political factors they manipulate—though these have their immediate significance—but upon humanity developing a new attitude and a new understanding of itself, based on its own essential unity. All that the statesmen can give is a temporary peace, which has to be consolidated by the will of the peoples concerned, and then fructified by the seeds of a wisdom that will dawn upon the heart and mind when they are free from the agitations created by themselves.

In a long evolutionary view, the change that has to take place is a change from a blindly outrushing and re-active mind, caught in a whirlpool of self-interest, seeking sensation in every form, to a mind that has achieved a measure of freedom from this turmoil and permits itself to be moved from beyond by a higher, kindlier, more universal nature, present potentially in every man, and spoken of as *Buddhi* both in Indian philosophy and Theosophical literature. Even though we may not be ready to ascend that sublime peak which is like a pure peak of the Himalayas bathed in sunlight, lifted from the clouds, yet it is possible to gain a foothold and a standpoint from which there can be a clear vision of the fundamentals which enter our lives. There has to be on the part of humanity at large, or a leading section thereof, an orientation different from what obtains with regard to the matters which now engage its interest.

The new age that one hears so freely spoken of, designated by different terms, must at least be lighted by a ray that will alter in some measure the value we assign to man as an experiencing, unfolding subject, as against technology and all other material means for shaping outer

conditions more in accord with his inner needs and development. For this we must realize that the mind cannot achieve by its own activity, however intense, that perspective wherein alone it can find its equilibrium, because of its being a mind conditioned by its own reactions, which constantly set up one set of interests against another. The more we progress in technology the worse becomes the imbalance. Technique and the mind that invents the technique are both tools at their respective levels. It depends on man, who is a superior being, more than any tool, whether he will use the means he has to destroy and degrade himself, or to serve that Divine nature in himself in which is the harmony he is intended to manifest.

As one reads the various Reports, one realizes that the problems of the Sections are like the colors of the spectrum, not the same everywhere; they vary from one to another, according to conditions. From Toronto in Canada, the General Secretary, Lt.-Colonel E. L. Thomson, writes that though "all in all the conditions are satisfactory," the very abundance of wealth that is being created in Canada, causing its present preoccupations, "obscures somewhat the spiritual aspect". It is to be expected that there will be difficulty in interesting people in things of importance, that to them are intangible, while the general mood is that of hurrying to carve their places economically under the sun. This, however, is not a disturbing problem, and is likely to pass with the present rush of the country's economic progress.

The General Secretary for Mexico, Señor de la Peña Gil, says that in that Section they had to drop some Lodges for different reasons, one of them for having become "polluted and suffocated by spiritism". There are many places, particularly in Central and South America,

where there are organizations for so-called spiritual purposes, generally under some leader who makes high claims and takes on the role of a Guru. The influence of these bodies, the members of which sometimes come into the Theosophical Society, tends to confuse the minds of the public as to what Theosophy really is. The only way, so far as I can see, to keep the Society free from all influence alien to its character is to present the Wisdom in such purity that there is no room in it for any motive of self-interest, no encouragement for achieving self-importance, which are blinding in their effects. Our duty is to strike the pure note of Truth, so far as we can manage it, leaving it to those concerned to respond to it or not in their freedom. This does not mean an attitude of unconcern with regard to them; nor does it exempt us from the trouble to present what we have to say in a form suited to their particular interest and needs. But it is where there is a danger of mixing up different types of appeal that one realizes how important it is for the Society to maintain itself as a pure channel of the Wisdom, free from every influence tending to degrade or deflect it from its proper purpose.

Another Section which in its Report adverts to peculiar conditions is the Philippines. I referred to the difficulties there in my address of 1955. Apparently they continue. Señor Domingo Argente, who has succeeded Dr. Benito Reyes as General Secretary, points out that though the culture of the country has a background of Oriental influences derived from the religions of the East, the population is at present predominantly Catholic, and there are lay bodies working to extend the domination of the Church, not only in the religious and educational spheres, but even the political field. As in some other countries, this is being counteracted in some measure by "the firm if silent oppo-

sition of the Masonic bodies, the Federation of Christian Churches, and hosts of liberal-minded citizens from all walks of life". The Society has to make its way among these conflicting currents, but it is hoped that by the life of the members and the doctrine they propagate, "the idea of universal brotherhood will characterize the growth of the young republic and the life of the people".

From Viet Nam, where there have been misunderstandings among the principal workers for several years, comes a detailed Report giving the cheerful news that the work of the Section as well as the Lodges is being reorganized by a Committee including all those workers, and there is now every hope of carrying it on with vigor. Madame Hai, the Assistant General Secretary, who has written the Report, mentions three aims they have placed before themselves, namely, fraternal ties between the members, the gaining of the necessary Theosophical knowledge by them, and its efficient propagation on a big scale. Not the least important of these is the first-mentioned one, which implies the friendly co-operation of members, the lack of which in Lodge or Section is often the reason why its work comes practically to a standstill. Generally, it matters far less who occupies which office, provided the requirements of the work are reasonably met, than that there should be a spirit of friendliness and co-operation among all concerned. As Brother Jinārādāsa used to say, it is far better for the Theosophical work, in any of its bodies, that the work should be carried on with the good-will of all, even though it is only sixty per cent good, than that it should be carried through with an apparently hundred per cent success by a majority regardless of the others.

One of the Sections where till recently conditions were heavily restricting is Colombia in South America. When I

was there last year they could not hold meetings freely open to the public; yet the General Secretary, Sra. Corina Martínez, and her co-workers, among whom I might perhaps mention Señor Walter Ballesteros, have been spreading Theosophy by regularly bringing out pamphlets, mostly translations into Spanish from English, and distributing them practically free, about a thousand at a time. "Great interest has been taken in our Lodges," says the General Secretary, "to stress the Theosophical life and improve the quality of the membership, even if the quantity remains stationary." There is no better way to propagate Theosophy.

In the Report on the work of the American Section, Mr. Perkins refers to a new feature which is the opportunities now occurring for talks over television. On one occasion more than an hour was given to questions and discussion of Theosophy. Also the use of the radio for presenting Theosophy has increased to no less than thirty stations. The department that handles this branch of the work has supplied radio scripts also to the Puerto Rican Section, whose General Secretary, Mrs. Esperanza Hopgood, has used them for translation into Spanish and printing them as booklets. The Spanish translations have been used as radio material both in Puerto Rico and Cuba. It is not unlikely that very soon other Sections in South and Central America might ask for these translations. It is well that in our Society each Section should have contact with others and help them in whatever way possible. An important aspect of the work to which much attention is paid in the United States is the collection and distribution of material that can be used for presenting Theosophy in relation to modern knowledge. The American Section has an Education Department which collects such material. This work also can be

extended to help other Sections where such material would be welcome.

The English General Secretary, Mrs. A. L. Berry, reports a decline in numbers though the meetings are well attended. She points out that when a special effort has been made to organize and advertise, they generally get a good response from the public. The reason why the number is declining cannot lie wholly in lack of proper organization or advertising. Perhaps we must find out what is the note to be sounded that will awaken those who are at all sensitive in such directions, to the form of Truth most needed at present. Many Lodges in England have been taking part in a campaign to make both members and the public realize the nature and power of thought.

In India the number of members has increased to 7,051. Mr. Rohit Mehta, the General Secretary, thinks the upward trend will be maintained. The Indian Section is divided into Federations, as are also the American and English Sections. Mr. Rohit Mehta points out that four of these Federations have each a membership exceeding 700.

In Malaya, which is now a Federation, the Organizing Secretary, Dr. C. H. Yeang, writes that the influence of Theosophy is just beginning to spread. Malaya is a State where a number of races live together now with the responsibilities of freedom. Dr. Yeang thinks that there is much scope, in the country's present growth, for the spread of Theosophical ideals, particularly universal Brotherhood.

Mr. J. E. van Dissel, the General Secretary of the European Federation, writes of the increasing value of the Regional meetings, which in 1957 were held in Basle, Switzerland, for the German-speaking areas, in Brussels, Belgium, for the French-speaking, and in Camberley, England, for the English-speaking. These

are gradually developing, he says, "into small international gatherings and becoming a source of inspiration for the work in the Sections". Summer Schools were held during the year in Switzerland, Finland, Denmark, England, The Netherlands and Germany. The General Secretary for Sweden, Mr. Gösta Lindström, says with regard to the Summer School in his Section: "The annual Summer School in Sweden is an important event of the year, giving the best opportunity for members from all over the country to come together, take part in study groups, listen to good lectures and exchange ideas." This is true also of the Schools in other Sections. As usual, the annual Sessions at "Olcott," the headquarters of the American Section, included a Summer School there, a feature of which this year was an exposition of the material collected by Mr. Fritz Kunz for the integration of Theosophy with modern knowledge. There have been Summer Schools also in Melbourne in Australia, and in New Zealand, following their annual Conventions. There have been gatherings of the same sort in different places in India, but called Camps, some for local areas, and two "Regional," for the North and South of India, respectively.

The New Zealand Section celebrated its Diamond Jubilee at its annual Convention last December. Another Diamond Jubilee was that of the Netherlands Section, which was celebrated in May this year at The Hague. Finland had its Golden Jubilee on November 17th, this year. Since the Society is now in its 83rd year, each year there are Lodges in different parts of the world which complete fifty or sixty years of work, and mark these milestones in an appropriate manner.

As I do not have the figures from all the Sections, I cannot give the exact number of members throughout the

world, but it is likely to be more or less the same as last year.

There is mention of the work of the Young Theosophists in several Section Reports. Herr Boyken, General Secretary for Germany, states that a number of them have been elected to the committee of that Section. The Young Theosophist periodical *Enthousiasme*, to which I referred in a previous Report, is now subsidized by the European Federation, and apparently makes a good impression on all. In Australia the Young Theosophists issue a bulletin named *Fraternity*, containing varied and lively matter. A new Theosophical journal entitled *Estudios Teosoficos* is being issued from Argentina by a group of enthusiastic Young Theosophists in that country.

I referred last year to the project of co-ordinating the work of translation into Spanish that has been going on in a number of Sections, but without much reference to one another. Señor Rimini in Argentina who is interested in this work—he has been elected General Secretary of the Section this year—hopes to place this work on a systematic basis, saving unnecessary duplication.

In this connection it might be mentioned that a group of workers in the Cuban Section, under the lead of Señor Alfredo Puig, are issuing a translation of the Watch-Tower notes in *The Theosophist* in the form of pamphlets which are distributed free to members and sympathizers not only in Cuba, but throughout all Spanish-speaking countries in South and Central America.

Among those engaged in translating Theosophical works from English into other languages, I would like to mention Srimati Uma Devi (Wanda Dynowska) who has translated into Polish and published this year *First Principles of Theosophy* by C. Jinarājadāsa and a work entitled *The Evolution of Symbolism* (from

The Secret Doctrine), along with other philosophic and religious works, such as *The Bhagavad Gītā*. These books are read with avidity, I understand, both by Theosophists and non-Theosophists in Poland.

I myself was in Europe this year from about the middle of July to the third week of September. Though I had gone for personal reasons, I had the opportunity of meeting a number of important workers in Switzerland, France, England and The Netherlands, and discussing with them various aspects of our work. Among those I met, I might mention Mr. Francis Brunel, General Secretary for France, Mrs. Alice L. Berry, General Secretary for England, and Mr. J. E. van Dissel, General Secretary of the European Federation. In November I was in Karachi, Pakistan, for a few days, to open the new building for the Society there, named Jamshed Memorial Building.

Miss Clara Codd was this year the guest lecturer at the English Section Convention, and has lectured in different places in England, Scotland and Wales arousing much enthusiasm. Mrs. Mary Patterson made a very successful lecture tour in Southern Africa, Rhodesia and East Africa, devoting some six months to that work. Mrs. Marion Lavender has visited during the year Lodges in New Zealand, Australia, Ceylon and Pakistan, conducting study classes and giving talks to members and the public. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson was to have made a tour in Australia, but unfortunately on arrival in Sydney he fell ill and had to return to his home in New Zealand, where his health has since improved considerably. Miss Helen Zahara also made a tour for three months in New Zealand, before she assumed the office of General Secretary in Australia last Easter. Other good workers who have helped by visiting various Sections in Europe are Mr. John

Coats, who has been to a number of Sections as far apart as Iceland and Austria, and Mrs. Josephine Ransom, who was present at the Summer Schools in Switzerland, Finland and Denmark. Although I do not mention in my Reports the tours of the General Secretaries and their national lecturers, yet what is accomplished by them is of no less importance and cannot be overlooked when reference is made to so-called international lecturing.

The School of the Wisdom commenced its sessions this year on October 2nd, as usual, with sixteen students from nine different countries, namely: Australia, England, India, Malaya, New Zealand, Pakistan, Rhodesia, Turkey and the United States. The main responsibility for the work this year has been on Miss Emma Hunt, as Director of Studies.

As in other years, I am happy to place on record my gratitude to Miss Emma Hunt, Recording Secretary; Miss Ann Kerr, Assistant Recording Secretary; Mr. Edwin N. Lord, Honorary Treasurer; and to all departmental heads and assistants who have helped me in endeavoring to carry on the work at Adyar. There have been some changes in staff in a few departments, one being that Miss Ann Kerr, Assistant Recording Secretary, had to take on the major work of that office, in order to relieve Miss Emma Hunt for the work of the School of the Wisdom. Miss Shirley Macpherson worked in the Library for some months and is Superintendent of Leadbeater Chambers for the time being, succeeding Miss Florence Pulsford who returned to Australia to assist the Section as field worker and lecturer. I appointed Mr. M. Subramaniam last April as Manager of the Vasanta Press, relieving Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti and Mr. K. Ramanathan of the office of Joint Directors of the Press.

Mr. D. V. Syamala Rau assists Mr. M. Subramaniam. Because of a long and trying illness, our highly esteemed Brother Dr. G. Srinivasamurti, who has been at different times Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Director of the Adyar Library and Chief Medical Officer, has been obliged to give up all his work. I want to say here how much we miss him and send him our sincerest good wishes.

The Adyar Library staff now includes Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, whom I recently appointed as Librarian, Dr. Sreekrishna Sarma, a gentleman with scholarly qualifications exactly fitted for research in the Library, Mr. P. M. Advani, a member of long standing from Karachi, and Mr. Charles Hunter from Belfast, who gives his work honorarily. The Library is indebted also to Mrs. Radha S. Burnier, who as Secretary of the Library Council and in other informal ways, has been of invaluable service especially on the Oriental side. An event in the work of the Library that calls for special mention is the bringing out of a Buddha Jayanti number of *Brahmavidya*, the Library Bulletin, containing scholarly articles which have been widely appreciated.

I give here the names of the principal workers in the various departments: *Archives*, Miss Katherine Beechey; *Adyar Library*, Miss Ann Kerr; *Bhojanasala*, Mr. S. Krishnamurti; *Dispensary*, Dr. E. Sundaresan, Mr. S. Krishnamurti; *Engineering Department*, Mr. M. D. Subramaniam; *Gardens*, Mr. N. Y. Sastry (Adviser), Mr. V. Manickam; *Custody of Movable Properties*, Mr. Narainji K. Kevat; *Laundry*, Mr. M. V. Gopalakrishna Iyer; *Leadbeater Chambers*, Miss Shirley Macpherson; *Recording Secretary's Office*, Miss Emma Hunt, Miss Ann Kerr; *Sanitation and Hygiene*, Madame P. Cazin; *Theosophical Publishing House*,

Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti, Mr. K. Ramathan; *The Theosophist*, Mrs. D. R. Dinshaw, Mr. Seymour Ballard; *Treasurer's Office*, Mr. Edwin N. Lord, Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan; *Vasanta Press*, Mr. M. Subramaniam, Mr. D. V. Syamala Rau; *Watch and Ward*, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti.

The work of the Theosophical Order of Service and activities of the same nature by groups of Theosophists are reported from a number of countries: The United States, England, India, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Burma, Iceland, Wales, the Philippines and Venezuela. There are many different lines being followed. Prominent among them are animal protection and welfare, the preparation of Theosophical literature for the blind, work for world peace by stressing the importance of the United Nations as well as by group meditations on peace, Theosophical Education and attempts to help and heal the sick.

Among those who have passed on during the year I must make mention of Miss Esther Bright who was so close a friend and co-worker of Dr. Annie Besant; Miss Cecile Bayer, who was for many years a pillar of the work in France; Mr. Milton Thornton of New Zealand, who has left a gap in the work there that is found difficult to fill; Mr. John Clarke of Brisbane, Australia, ever a most dependable and enthusiastic worker for every purpose connected with the movement; and Mr. Karl Riedel of Vienna, Austria, known to members on the continent of Europe as a devoted and scholarly worker. To these and all other good workers who have passed on, let us send our thoughts of affection and gratitude.

In my Presidential Address of December 1953 I gave details of the agreement that I had come to with Srimati Rukmini Devi for the accommodation of the Besant Centenary Trust institutions, namely, Kalakshetra, the Besant Theosophical

School, and the Arundale Teachers' Training Centre. I stated then that already a site had been acquired not far from the Theosophical Society's estate, for settling these institutions permanently in suitable buildings of their own. The site now comprises about 86 acres. On June 4th this year the Foundation Stone was laid by Rukmini Devi for the first building to be erected there. This was followed at the end of August by an inauguration of the work of building, by His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

I must again draw the attention of members all over the world to the fact that the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund, started in February 1947, is still far from the target fixed at that time. Since everything in India has gone up considerably in cost during the last ten years, the income that we will realize from this Fund, even when it reaches the full figure, would not be sufficient to meet our annual deficit. Another Fund, which had a good start in 1953 but needs replenishment, is the Raja Commemorative Fund. It was inaugurated with a view to assist lecturers to travel from one country to another, when

that is wanted for the work. Also, as I have pointed out in other years, we need money for a new building for the Adyar Library. Although I do not believe in urging anyone to contribute beyond what he himself feels moved to do when he understands the needs, I must do my duty of indicating the needs.

Before we close this meeting, let us think of our members all over the world, and send them our affection and goodwill. I am sure they are thinking of us at this time. And let us lift our thoughts in all reverence to those Masters of the Wisdom whom we call the Elder Brethren:

May Those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their continued help and guidance the Society founded to help Their purpose; and may we in every possible way make ourselves and the Society worthy to serve Them in Their plans to lead the world from darkness into Light.

I declare this Convention open.

N. SRI RAM

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The Income and Expense Account of the Theosophical Society for the official year ended 30th September 1957 closed with a deficit of Rs. 11,103 as shown below in summarized form.

		<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actuals</i>
		Rs.	Rs.
Expense including Departments	..	4,96,620	5,38,980
Income " "	..	4,32,250	4,53,061
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Deficit ..	..	64,370	85,919
Less Donations received (after allocation to funds and accounts)	..		74,816
			<hr/>
Net Deficit ..	..		11,103

The Adyar Day Collections including a balance of Rs. 267.22 carried forward from the previous year amounted to Rs. 29,564. Of this amount, the sum of Rs. 21,779 was contributed generously by members in U.S.A. Other donations and bequests received during the year amounted to Rs. 53,316. The President allocated the amount to various funds as shown below:

				Rs.	nP.
Olcott Harijan Free Schools	..	..	..	1,000	00
Adyar Library	..	..	..	2,000	00
Besant Theosophical School	..	..	..	1,000	00
Welfare Fund	..	..	..	2,500	00
Art Fund	..	..	..	500	00
President's Discretionary Fund	..	..	..	1,000	00
Sum made available for the T. S.	..	..	..	74,816	46
				<hr/>	
				82,816	46
Retained for further allocation	..	..	..	63	82
				<hr/>	
				82,880	28

Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund.—

At the commencement of the year the amount at credit of the fund was Rs. 9,75,446. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 67,439. The total amount at credit of the fund at close of the year was Rs. 10,42,885. We have now reached slightly more than half of the target level of Rs. 20,00,000. The fund is still open for continuous contributions to attain this total.

The Faithful Service Fund.—At the beginning of the year the amount in this fund was Rs. 68,255. Disbursements to beneficiaries were Rs. 9,086. The balance at the close of the year to the credit of the fund inclusive of interest and donations received was Rs. 59,395.

Repairs and Renewals.—Further essential major repairs and improvements to buildings on the compound were undertaken this year at a cost of Rs. 41,866.

Garden Department.—The year closed with an increased deficit of Rs. 7,092 as against a budgeted deficit of Rs. 6,000. The deficit for this year was mainly due to a general increase in wages of 10% and to the cost of additional manuring, the benefits of which are expected to be realized during the coming year.

Watch and Ward and Sanitation Departments.—These departments both operated within their budget limits.

Leadbeater Chambers.—The deficit of this department is more than was antici-

pated. Although wages were increased by 10% and prices paid for supplies have also increased, the rates charged have not been increased and hence this excess over the anticipated deficit.

Laundry.—The increase in deficit is due to the enhancement of 10% in wages paid.

Bhojanasala.—This department shows a deficit of Rs. 3,573. The remarks mentioned under Leadbeater Chambers are applicable to this department also.

Engineering Department.—The deficit incurred by this Department is partly caused by the 10% enhancement of wages and the somewhat reduced income on overhead charges due to a lower volume of work done.

Vasanta Press.—The budgeted deficit for this department was Rs. 12,000 whereas the actual deficit was Rs. 15,157. This was a year of reorganization with change of management. The new management has already introduced economies which should result in improvement within the coming year.

As has been previously indicated the Society's income from Dues and other established sources of revenue is not sufficient to cover the essential needs of the Society. Our budget for the new year again shows a deficit (Rs. 61,830). This deficit can only be avoided by the receipt of donations from generous members and friends.

EDWIN N. LORD,
Hony. Treasurer.

THE T. S. INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Budget		EXPENSE						Rs.		nP.	
	Rs.										
35,500	To Establishment—Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	...	...	37,688	61		
30,000	„ Repairs and Renewals	...	...	...	...	...	...	41,866	30		
3,500	„ Light and Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,690	96		
7,000	„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,985	66		
3,000	„ Postages, Telegrams and Telephones	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,665	76		
3,500	„ Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,101	50		
14,000	„ Taxes	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,571	23		
700	„ Publications to General Secretaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	631	77		
100	„ Museum and Archives	...	...	...	...	...	...	271	97		
4,500	„ Convention, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,069	21		
	„ Departmental Results:										
		Expense		Income		Net					
		Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.				
6,000	Garden	42,817	37	35,724	92	— 7,092	45				
13,800	Watch and Ward	15,339	88	2,551	48	— 12,788	40				
5,000	Sanitation	4,386	78	1,211	94	— 3,174	84				
3,500	Dispensary	5,364	77	1,356	64	— 4,008	13				
2,000	Leadbeater Chambers	21,039	13	17,939	65	— 3,099	48				
1,700	Laundry	8,330	27	6,250	76	— 2,079	51				
1,000	Bhojanasala	13,955	30	10,381	85	— 3,573	45				
	Engineering Department	1,26,665	91	1,22,671	87	— 3,994	04				
12,000	Vasanta Press	1,48,134	76	1,32,978	00	— 15,156	76				
		3,86,034	17	3,31,067	11	— 54,967	06	54,967	06		
								1,72,510	03		
	„ Appropriations:										
5,000	To Adyar Library	...	...	...	...	5,000	00				
5,000	„ The School of the Wisdom	...	...	...	...	5,000	00				
6,600	„ The President's Travelling Fund	...	...	...	...	6,600	00				
								16,600	00		
18,500	„ Depreciation:										
	On Immovable Property @ 2%	...	...	...	...	13,918	90				
	„ Movable Property	...	...	...	...	4,573	65				
	„ "Gulistan" @ 2%	...	...	...	...	309	20				
								18,801	75		
								2,07,911	78		

ADYAR

27th December, 1957

For The Theosophical Society,
 EDWIN N. LORD,
 Hony. Treasurer.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1957

[illegible]

Examined and found correct,
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES							
Capital:		Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.
Balance at Oct. 1, 1956 ...	...	...	...	10,14,153	99		
Less Adyar Library (see below) ...	...	...	...	1,87,492	35		
				8,26,661	64		
Less Excess of Expense over Income	...	...	...	11,103	67		
				8,15,557	97		
Add Adyar Library (see separate Account)	...	...	...	1,88,429	86	10,03,987	83
Other Departments:							
Bhojanasala	...	2,894	81				
Engineering Department	...	74,483	38				
Garden Department	...	67,779	83				
Laundry	...	1,101	47				
Leadbeater Chambers	...	2,589	62				
Vasanta Press	...	1,60,661	87				
		3,09,510	98				
Funds (see notes below)							
Of the Society Interest Bearing:							
Adyar Library Endowment Fund (a)	...	1,10,847	38				
Adyar Library Building Fund (b)	...	1,16,915	64				
Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund (c)	...	10,42,885	02				
Miscellaneous Funds (a)	...	99,646	08				
do. do. (d)	...	14,116	85				
		13,84,410	97				
Of the Society Non-Interest Bearing:							
President's Travelling Fund	...	10,385	38	13,94,796	35		
Of Others							
Interest Bearing	...	37,167	79				
Non-Interest Bearing	...	63,695	71	1,00,863	50	14,95,659	85
						90,235	91
Sundry Deposits	...	...	...			2,557	41
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	
Adyar Library:							
Miscellaneous Funds	...	...	...	19,355	39		
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	2,175	97		
Gratuities Reserve	...	...	...	10,100	49	31,631	85
Reserves:							
Electrical Line	...	...	...	6,000	00		
Meter and Water Line Renewal	...	...	...	4,000	00		
Supplemental Welfare Fund	...	...	...	41	91		
Adyar Day Unallocated	...	...	...	63	82		
Water Tank	...	...	...	2,000	00		
Special Purposes Fund	...	...	...	15,035	72	27,141	45
Note.—(a) Capital and Interest available for specific purposes.							
(b) Interest available for general purposes.							
(c) Interest only available for general purposes.							
(d) Interest only available for specific purposes.							
						26,51,214	30

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 1957

PROPERTY AND ASSETS							
		Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.
Immovable Property:							
Balance at Oct. 1, 1956							
Lands at Adyar	...	1,93,857	81				
Buildings	...	6,95,945	80				
Add Improvements during the year	...			8,89,803	61		
				24,885	90		
Less Depreciation Reserve	...			9,14,689	51		
				2,95,793	15		
Land in Sindh	...					6,18,896	36
"Gulistan," Kotagiri:						10,000	00
Balance at Oct. 1, 1956	...			15,460	42		
Add Additions	...			2,809	63		
Less Depreciation Reserve	...			18,270	05		
				2,137	48		
Movable Properties, Adyar:						16,132	57
Balance at Oct. 1, 1956	...			64,142	92		
Less Sales	...			15	00		
Add Additions during the year	...			64,127	92		
				15,119	73		
Less Depreciation Reserve	...			79,247	65		
				52,160	15		
Investments at Cost:						27,087	50
Government of India Loan 2½% to 4% F. V. 7,76,500	...			7,66,214	18		
Madras State Govt. Loan 2½% to 4% F. V. 1,48,600	...			1,48,716	30		
United Kingdom Loan, etc.	...			3,03,180	70		
Surrender Value of Life Policy	...			27,400	00		
Miscellaneous	...			11,243	27		
(Includes Vasanta Press Provident Fund Investment in Govt of India 3½% Loan of F. V. Rs. 5,000—cost Rs. 4,948.75)	...					12,56,754	45
Interest accrued on Investments	...					25,917	72
Fees and Dues Outstanding	...					1,559	76
Sundry Debtors	...			61,156	29		
Less Rentals billed in Advance	...			2,046	25		
Departmental Assets:						59,110	04
Electrical Installation, less Depreciation	...			26,302	00		
Tools, Implements, Utensils and Equipment	...			22,754	95		
Printing Machinery	...			85,112	00		
Supplies on hand	...			99,563	06		
Accounts Recoverable and Advances	...			79,380	17		
Cash on hand	...			1,085	00		
Advance Rentals	...			112	00		
Standing Crops	...			62,902	51		
Prepaid Fire Insurance Premium	...			2,081	91		
Adyar Library:							
Books and Manuscripts	...	1,49,648	96	3,79,293	60		
Furniture, less Depreciation	...	28,383	49				
Stock of Publications	...	24,569	89				
Miscellaneous	...	1,469	86				
				2,04,072	20		
Cash:						5,83,365	80
Fixed Deposit	...			464	74		
In Madras Banks on Current Account	...			41,530	82		
In London Bank do.	...			3,789	69		
On hand	...			6,604	85		
(Includes Vasanta Press Provident Fund cash Rs. 3,393.40)						52,390	10
						26,51,214	30

Examined and found correct,
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1957

					Rs.	nP.
The Theosophical Society in U.S.A.	1957	\$	2065.37	..	9,819	90
" " Venezuela		\$	53.00	..	248	48
" " Mexico	1956	\$	70.00	..	328	81
" " Argentina		\$	148.00	..	701	81
" " Cuba		\$	122.65	..	578	45
" " Puerto Rico		\$	15.00	..	68	83
" " Central America		\$	34.00	..	160	08
" " Canada	1957	\$	97.34	..	476	31
" " England	1957	£	287-16- 6	..	3,821	92
" " West Africa		£	2-12- 0	..	34	31
" " Ireland		£	2-17- 8	..	35	52
" " N. Ireland	1956	£	2- 1- 6	..	27	56
" " Chile		£	6-14- 0	..	88	41
" " New Zealand	1956	£	57- 2- 0	..	745	86
" " Norway	1956	£	6-14-11	..	90	31
" " Wales		£	13- 9- 3	..	178	02
" " Italy		£	28- 6- 6	..	376	35
" " Scotland		£	15- 2- 9	..	200	24
" " Uruguay		£	10- 0- 0	..	132	00
" " S. Africa		£	14-13- 6	..	194	87
" " India	1955-56			..	1,439	44
" " Australia	1956			..	623	05
" " France	1956			..	1,789	98
" " Burma				..	83	00
" " Colombia				..	141	18
" " Netherlands	1956			..	1,982	00
" " Switzerland	1955-57			..	700	35
" " Malaya and Singapore				..	464	54
Canadian Federation	..	..	..	..	227	94
Spanish Friends	..	..	..	..	1,212	75
Non-Sectionalized Lodges	..	..	..	..	447	09
					<hr/> 27,419	<hr/> 36

FAITHFUL SERVICE FUND

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1957

DISBURSEMENTS

RECEIPTS

	Rs.	nP.		Rs.	nP.
To Payments to Beneficiaries ...	9,082	04	By Opening Balance ...	65,255	03
„ Money Order and Bank Com- missions ...	4	05	„ Donations, etc. ...	1,511	46
„ Balance carried over ...	59,395	95	„ Rent ...	240	00
			„ Interest ...	1,475	55
	<u>68,482</u>	<u>04</u>		<u>68,482</u>	<u>04</u>

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S
TRAVELLING FUND

RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1957

	Rs.	nP.
British Regional Committee £ 50-0-0	662	91
The T.S. in Scotland £ 6-3-9	82	34
The T.S. in England £ 50-0-0	663	48
Mrs. Olive Stevenson Howell, England £ 5-0-0	66	31
Mr. V. C. Rajagopalachari, India	50	00
Mr. S. T. Kaliappan, India	10	00
Mr. S. H. Vaswani, India	2	00
	<u>1,537</u>	<u>04</u>

THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1957-58

EXPENSE	Budget for 1956-'57	Actuals for 1956-'57	Budget for 1957-'58	INCOME	Budget for 1956-'57	Actuals for 1956-'57	Budget for 1957-'58
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and Wages ...	35,500	37,689	38,000	Rent ...	50,000	51,678	50,000
Repairs and Renewals ...	30,000	41,866	30,000	Fees and Dues ...	25,000	27,419	25,000
Garden Expenses ...	40,840	42,817	46,400	Conservancy Charges ...	1,400	1,212	1,200
Light and Water ...	3,500	3,691	3,500	Garden Income ...	34,840	35,725	40,100
Miscellaneous ...	7,000	6,987	7,000	Casuarina ...	4,000	5,501	4,000
Postages, Telegrams and Telephone ...	3,000	2,666	3,000	Administration Charges ...	7,130	7,130	7,130
Printing and Stationery ...	3,500	5,102	4,000	Interest (Gross) ...	40,000	41,948	40,040
Publications to General Secretaries ...	700	632	700	Special Departments:			
Sanitation Expenses ...	5,000	4,387	5,000	Engineering Department ...	1,25,880	1,22,672	1,19,180
Taxes ...	14,000	14,571	14,000	Vasanta Press ...	1,38,000	1,32,979	1,38,000
Interest on Funds and Accounts ...	10,000	11,685	10,000	Laundry ...	6,000	6,251	6,450
Convention ...	4,500	4,069	4,500	Donations ...		74,816	
Watch and Ward ...	13,800	12,789	14,000	Deficit ...	64,370	11,104	61,830
Contributions:							
To Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
„ Dispensary ...	3,500	4,008	3,500				
„ President's Travelling Fund ...	6,600	6,600	6,600				
„ Museum and Archives ...	100	272	300				
„ School of the Wisdom ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Bhojanasala ...	1,000	3,573	2,200				
Leadbeater Chambers ...	2,000	3,099	2,800				
Depreciation ...	18,500	18,801	18,800				
Special Departments:							
Engineering Department ...	1,25,880	1,26,666	1,19,180				
Vasanta Press ...	1,50,000	1,48,135	1,41,000				
Laundry ...	7,700	8,330	8,450				
	4,96,620	5,18,435	4,92,930		4,96,620	5,18,435	4,92,930

For The Theosophical Society,
EDWIN N. LORD,
Hony. Treasurer.

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PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1957

[illegible]

Examined and found correct.

V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.

Chartered Accountants.

Budget	EXPENSE				Rs.	nP.
Rs.						
28,000	To Salaries and Wages including Copying and Comparing Charges	...	...	...	24,631	51
2,000	„ Repairs, Lighting and Conservancy	...	...	...	947	48
800	„ Postages	...	...	...	554	10
2,000	„ Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	1,795	93
200	„ Fire Insurance	...	...	...	211	25
1,500	„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	1,659	85
1,500	„ Reserve for Gratuities	...	...	...	1,500	00
850	„ Reserve for Depreciation	...	...	...	858	00
					32,158	12
	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
1,000	Books, Manuscripts and Journals	467 96		
2,000	Furniture etc.	469 56		
					937	52
					33,095	64

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

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ADYAR LIBRARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-57

[illegible]

BALANCE SHEET OF THE

LIABILITIES AND FUNDS				Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.
<i>Endowment Fund:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,24,585	82		
Less Excess of Expense over Income for the year	...	...	...	13,678	44		
				1,10,907	38		
Less Transfer to Book Deposit	...	...	...	60	00	1,10,847	38
<i>Building Fund:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,16,086	64		
Add Receipts during the year	...	...	...	829	00	1,16,915	64
<i>Capital Fund:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,87,492	34		
Add Capital expense during the year	...	...	...	937	52	1,88,429	86
<i>Publications Fund:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...		17,814	72
<i>Gratuities Reserve:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	8,893	49		
Additions during the year	...	...	...	1,500	00		
				10,393	49		
Less Payments	...	...	...	293	00	10,100	49
<i>Book Deposit:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,371	00		
Add Receipts during the year	...	...	...	200	00		
„ Transfer from Endowment Fund	...	...	...	60	00		
				1,631	00		
Less Refunds	...	...	...	140	00	1,491	00
Reserve for Purchase of books	...	...	...	...		1,000	00
<i>Donation Box:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	936	72		
Add Collections during the year	...	...	...	39	70		
				976	42		
Less Disbursements	435	75	540	67
Sundry Creditors		684	97
						4,47,824	73

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

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ADYAR LIBRARY AS ON 30-9-57

[illegible]

Examined and found correct,
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY

BUDGET ESTIMATE—INCOME AND EXPENSE
ACCOUNT FOR 1957-'58

EXPENSE	Actuals for 1956-'57	Budget for 1957-'58	INCOME	Actuals for 1956-'57	Budget for 1957-'58
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
To Salaries and Wages ...	24,631	25,000	By T.S. Contribution ...	5,000	5,000
„ Repairs, Lighting, Water and Conservancy ...	947	900	„ Adyar Day Allocation and other Donations ...	3,131	2,000
„ Postages ...	554	600	„ Copying and Comparing Charges ...	522	
„ Miscellaneous ...	1,660	1,500	„ Interest on Endowments ...	6,017	6,000
„ Printing and Stationery ...	1,796	1,800	„ Miscellaneous Receipts ...	504	500
„ Fire Insurance ...	211	200	„ Publications Account ...	4,244	4,000
„ Gratuity Reserve ...	1,500	1,500	„ Deficit ...		14,900
„ Depreciation ...	859	900			
	32,158	32,400		19,418	32,400
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
„ Purchase of Books, and Manu- scripts and Journals ...	469	500			
„ Furniture ...	468	500			
	937	1,000			
PUBLICATIONS					
„ Brahma Vidya ...	4,300				
„ Lakshmi Tantra ...	7,200				
„ Sangitaratnakara ...	5,000				
		16,500			

ANN KERR,
Director,
Adyar Library

REPORTS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIES
OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES, OF
PRESIDENTIAL AGENTS AND OF
FEDERATION SECRETARIES.

These reports in some instances have been translated
into English, edited or condensed in the office of the
Recording Secretary.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A number of special events occurred this year with opportunities that were splendidly met. Outstanding among these were the Convention and Summer School sessions, so well attended, with programmes led by Mr. Geoffrey Hodson. Following these, almost immediately, a number of workers and students from many parts of the country gathered for the Krotona Retreat at Ojai, California, for six weeks of study and instruction under Mr. Hodson's direction. All of this work has been deeply strengthening to the Section's life and we are grateful to Mr. Hodson for the outstanding contribution he made toward it.

In November, during Thanksgiving week, the Second National Theosophical Conference, held in New York City, was distinctly successful. In the pilot programme created by the Research Division of the Education Department, there was displayed something of the wonderfully interesting material now becoming available for presenting Theosophy more clearly and informatively in relation to modern knowledge.

During the year there have been fine Federation gatherings that were high points of Theosophical activity in many parts of the Section.

In recent months special television opportunities have occurred. During the Spotlight tour in Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. Felix Layton were invited to appear on a midnight television programme, which attracted unusual attention. Upon a further appearance, over an hour was given to questions and discussion of Theosophy, and the Laytons were even

more successful in their use of the opportunity. In the autumn, other unexpected openings arose for the Society to accept time on the air from television stations. Two half-hour periods following close upon each other in the cities of Chicago and San Francisco became available, both of these periods being connected with weekly series of educational programmes concerning religion.

Everyone is aware of the tremendous increase of interest in religion and of the growing Church attendance in this country. Some of our members have asked why, apparently, the Theosophical Society is not experiencing a comparable growth. We have to recognize that despite its 82 years in existence, the Society is still a pioneering organization. It offers a challenge to its members to live in a freer world from a point of view that is not yet popularly held. However, the many and increasing signs that Theosophy is necessary for a comprehension of modern civilization, promises increasing growth of the Society in the near future. In greater measure than any single religion, Theosophy as a universally integrative philosophy and as a science of the spirit, can be a potential transformer of lives. Theosophy is both a life-giver and a life-transformer. Each member who seeks Theosophy as something more than mere information, something more than a body of interesting ideas, who seeks Theosophy in its *Will aspect*, its revolutionizing aspect, finds that he can awaken a more radiant spirit in himself that attracts others who themselves are seeking more life, more light.

Where the vitalizing, renewing effect of Theosophy is not being experienced, one may ask whether members are too tentative in their approach to Theosophy, too diffuse¹ in their search for Truth, wandering at random along too many trails. When essentials have become evident, one must be diligently active in applying them to daily situations. For example, there is the knowledge of the nature of man, of the Higher Self and the lower self in each. Are we inviting the influence of the Immortal Self into our lives by our attitudes and actions? And again, in the present dangerous world predicament, how many of us are but doubtfully aware of the existence of a Brotherhood of Perfected Men with whom it is possible to co-operate more wisely and fully in the unfolding Plan of Life? Beginning with basic realities that are understood, there is a call upon the Theosophist to revolutionize himself in accordance with his awakened perceptions. With even a few individuals re-directed by Theosophy's all-embracing philosophy, its life-transforming power, there exists in the world an influence which, as it becomes more widespread, is capable of regenerating mankind.

Even more than the individual Theosophist, the *Lodge* should be a vital centre of creative life. Lodges as centres of an integrative knowledge about life—particularly when members' meetings are inspiring experiences—become transmitters of vitalizing influences and forces that can make of the Theosophical Society one of the most significant and interesting movements in the world today. Certainly future growth is in this direction. Meanwhile, the vision of the Society's greatness of conception lights the way ahead, and it is our task to build toward its future.

National Election.—This year has been marked—as it is triennially—by an election of national officers. The National

President and the National Vice-President were re-elected for a further term of three years.

Financial.—Income and expenses have continued in the same trend, relatively, as reported in recent years. Despite the \$18,800 in donations shown in the published statement for 1956, there was a deficit of \$12,000 after depreciation. This year there was a comparable situation in income and expense. In recent months, the important question was placed before the members whether or not—in view of the fact that fixed income does not meet expense, while costs continue to rise—we should raise the dues. The question was referred to the whole Section for a referendum vote on it. The answer given by less than half of the members voting in the referendum was negative by a majority of 210, or 5% of the whole membership. This is a small percentage, but it registers the definite decision of the Section.

The Theosophical Investment Trust.—Glancing toward the future, it is especially gratifying to report for the trustees that the Theosophical Investment Trust, in its second year, has become firmly established under the chairmanship of Mr. Sidney A. Cook. The greater purpose of the Trust is to open a way for members and non-members to bequeath legacies, the income from which will be devoted to the objectives of the Theosophical Society. It is gratifying that individuals are seeking to utilize the Trust facilities by making direct and outright gifts, even while they must retain a life interest in the investment income from such gifts.

Membership.—At the close of the year, 30th September 1957, the records reveal an increase of 47 in the total number of members. The previous year closed with a total active membership of 4,194. We have added 383 new members during these 12 months. There were 58 re-statements and 22 transferred from other

Sections; 81 were removed through death, 304 became inactive, 29 resigned and 2 transferred to other Sections, the final total being 4,241 active members. It is a healthy condition that, with the three new Lodges chartered this year, there are at present 148 active Lodges. These totals indicate that the Society continues to grow at a slow but steady pace.

Field Activities.—During the year the National President and Mrs. Perkins made lecture tours to the Lodges in the Pacific Coast States, the Mid-West and Rocky Mountain States. They also visited Lodges in the East and in several southern States. Dr. Henry A. Smith, National Vice-President, Mrs. Iris White, and Miss Joy Mills of the Headquarters Staff, visited Lodges in various parts of the country.

Spotlight.—The Spotlight programme which focuses a concentrated series of classes and lectures in a particular locality for 8 or 10 weeks, was scheduled this year in the Federations of Northern California, Florida and the Middle Atlantic area (25,000 miles being covered in the three tours.) In each case, a circuit of four cities was selected for the introductory public lectures and the subsequent class meetings. A basic feature of the Spotlight effort is the attempt to reach a new public. In addition to Radio Theosophy programmes, various kinds of publicity methods were tried, there being different opportunities in each city. The response to this work seems to indicate a growing interest and an increased readiness on the part of the public to be attracted to the principles of Theosophy.

National Theosophical Conference.—Members from Lodges and Federations all over the Section gathered at the Second National Theosophical Conference held in New York City at Thanksgiving

time. This Conference, with the National President presiding and all but one of the Board of Directors attending, marked another successful effort to hold national gatherings of this scope, so well supported, in the areas of the Section most distant from Headquarters.

Department of Information.—Through correspondence with this department, 75 new members joined the Society during this year, 26 of these having joined Lodges to which they were referred. Of first importance of the various branches of work of this department is the extensive correspondence with inquirers dealing with questions of many kinds. An increasing number of inquiries along scientific lines was noted. Over 13,000 publicity leaflets were distributed through the department this year. A small free lending library is maintained for those unable to join the national library. Another activity is the distribution of used books to libraries of newly formed groups. There is also correspondence with prisoners and Theosophical books have been placed in some of the prison libraries. Inquirers, or new members in an area where there is no Lodge, are often put in touch with a member there who is willing to give help to the newcomer to Theosophy. Such contacts have in several instances resulted in an official study group being established.

Department of Education.—This Department has completed five years of valuable service to the Society and the Lodges. Through the year it carried on its consultation service to the Lodges. A revised edition of *The History of Theosophy and The Theosophical Society* was completed. There have been two new additions to the Library Reading Lists, which have proved very useful, especially to Lodge librarians. The audio-visual aids continue to be popular. The Spring Workshop at Olcott in March was one of

the most successful we have had, with members attending from 7 Lodges and 3 Federations.

At the annual meeting of the National Directors last year, it was decided to institute on a trial basis, a new and significant branch of the Department of Education. The Research Division was authorized as an extension of the department and provided with a limited budget to proceed with research projects in relating Theosophy and modern advances in knowledge. As a result, it is hoped that these can be shaped into the form of programmes that could be immensely valuable to Lodges in effectively presenting Theosophy to thoughtful audiences. One such programme is being assembled and is in preparation for circulation to the Lodges.

National Library.—This year 3,503 books were loaned to 369 borrowers, 181 of whom were new borrowers. The total number of volumes contained in the library remains at approximately 10,500. Lodge librarians are being encouraged to request the Library Reading Lists which are proving to be increasingly popular and useful, 3,875 having been distributed through the year. These lists now number 25.

The Theosophical Press.—Gross sales have again reached approximately the high level achieved last year, the total figure—over \$42,000—being considerably above that of previous years.

The American Theosophist.—The primary means for communication within the Section is the national magazine, *The American Theosophist*. It is the sole organ reaching the entire membership with official information and instruction, as well as with articles on Theosophy and related topics. The feature "Guides in Lodge Study" has been most successful.

Discovery.—The value of the four-page leaflet, *Discovery*, as a means of spreading

Theosophical ideas is reflected in the comments received from non-members as well as from some of the 87 Lodges which distribute it free of charge. Nearly 83,000 have been distributed this year. The articles selected for publication in *Discovery* are chosen particularly for their appeal to non-members, and emphasis has generally been placed on the value of Theosophy in daily living.

Contact.—This monthly letter from the National President's office to all Lodge presidents, has continued through a second year. By this means, it has been possible to call attention to matters of pertinent concern in our work, to significant events of mutual interest, and to services of Headquarters specifically designed to aid in Lodge programmes. The response to *Contact* indicates that this closer liaison with the National President and Headquarters is increasingly appreciated.

National Radio Activity.—Radio broadcasting has increased to 30 stations during the year, and there have been extensions of this activity into other countries. For example, in Puerto Rico, the General Secretary, Mrs. Esperanza Hopgood, has completed translation into Spanish of 104 of the radio scripts and is now having them printed in booklets. The Secretary of the Chilean Section has also asked for this material. The very generous donation to the National Radio Fund last year has ensured the financing of this activity for several years until it can be carried on a self-sustaining basis. Lodges may draw upon this fund up to the amount of one-half the cost of a broadcast series. It is encouraging that several Lodges have managed to completely finance their programmes. The Foundation for Radio Theosophy now has a total of 156 tapes available for broadcasts.

The American Honorary Theosophical Lecture.—At the Convention last year,

the American Honorary Theosophical Lecture, "A New Continent of Thought," was delivered by Mr. William J. Ross. This splendid contribution was published and is now available through the Theosophical Press.

Young Theosophists.—The Young Theosophists of America began the year with their annual Convention in July and the presentation of a panel discussion at the Summer School. Publication of the official magazine, *Youth and Brotherhood*, has continued and a philosophical discussion group was established on the campus of the University of Michigan.

Theosophical Book Gift Institute.—Through the Theosophical Book Gift Institute each year libraries of many types are contacted with increasing acceptance, and even eager response. In addition to placement of Theosophical books in these libraries, Theosophy is also taken to many isolated people through bookmobiles serving branch libraries and book stations in country communities and farm and mountain districts. This year 4,690 books on Theosophy were placed in 617 libraries. Through the T.B.G.I., gift subscriptions to *The Theosophist* have been made to 44 libraries, and the Adyar Library Bulletin was made available to 11 colleges and universities.

Theosophical Book Association for the Blind.—The unique work of the Theosophical Book Association for the Blind has continued steadily. In addition to the special services to the 65 members of the Braille Lodge, there is provided for the other blind readers of Theosophy the services of the Braille Library from which 605 books were borrowed last year, and the Soundscribe Department of "Talking Books". Since this department was established in 1952, 159 books have been transcribed on records. Thirty-one volumes have been added to the Braille

Library this year. Duplicates of library books and pamphlets were sent to the newly established Adyar Braille Library. The *Braille Star Theosophist*, a quarterly publication, is read by 480 subscribers, 53 new readers having been added this year. Among these are included the Blind Centres and Schools which Mr. and Mrs. Snyder visited in their trip abroad.

The Theosophical Order of Service.—In addition to Lodges where members are active in various departments of the Theosophical Order of Service, many individual members, especially those who are unable to attend Lodge meetings, and national members, are engaged in some service activity. Interest in the T.O.S. work is growing.

Mothers' Research Group.—The Mothers' Research Group has this year produced several publications that circulate material on parenthood and child education with emphasis on the importance of spiritual life for the family. The "World Friendship" issue of the quarterly *Mothers' Bulletin* was circulated to international groups and received with enthusiastic response.

It is an inspiring and heartening experience to be at the National Headquarters where we have numerous evidences of the kind of life that pervades and upholds our active members. Many are the tales of gallantry and sacrifice that could be told. The years that lie ahead are bright with promise, with exciting and stimulating prospects of work for each one of us. May we ever be appreciative of the privilege of our having become aware of, and alert to, the significance of the Theosophical Society for this century and of our having become active in serving its noble ends.

JAMES S. PERKINS,
General Secretary.

ENGLAND

In spite of the fact that our numbers are still declining, I feel that there is a stirring of life in the Section. Meetings are well attended, and where the members make a special effort to organize and advertise the meetings, they generally get a good response from the public. Numbers do not really matter so much, and the live interest of a few does more in spreading the ideas than a large number who perhaps are not so keen.

During the year we were privileged to have a visit—alas too short—from our beloved President, Mr. N. Sri Ram. It was a joy to welcome him at Headquarters in September and to see how very much better he was looking.

We have also had the great pleasure of the return to England of Miss Clara Codd after so many years. She has been paying visits all around the country, and members write enthusiastically about her work wherever she has been.

The annual Convention was held as usual at Whitsun and proved to be a happy event. The guest speaker was Miss Codd, who gave us some beautiful and inspiring addresses. The Blavatsky Lecture was given by Mr. Dudley Gower and was entitled "The Reign of the Spirit: A Study of the Individual Approach". It was a splendid contribution to Theosophical thought, and was, I think, the keynote of Convention, the ultimate reunion of the separated spiritual unit within the One Life. It was interesting to note that this keynote was taken up by all the speakers, each emphasizing it in lectures that were of very high quality. An unusual feature was the practical demonstration in models by the Science Group of the Theosophical Research Centre, who unselfishly gave up a great deal of their holiday to explaining these very fascinating exhibits. There were many

visitors from different countries to whom we are grateful for the additional richness their various approaches gave. A visit to the Theosophical centre at Camberley took place on the Tuesday following Convention and was much enjoyed by all who were able to take part in it.

The Summer School at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, Herts, in August, was a very enjoyable experience for all of us who took part in it, and we owe gratitude to all who contributed to make it so, to Miss Codd for the lovely atmosphere she brings wherever she goes, to the many lecturers who shared with us their knowledge and wisdom, to our several members who gave us so much pleasure and relaxation with their music, and to those who worked behind the scenes, making the wheels run smoothly.

Another very interesting event was the International Congress held at St. Michael's Centre, Huizen, in July. This was attended by Miss Codd, Mrs. Gardner, Mr. Stephenson, Mr. Coats and myself. These international gatherings are immensely valuable, enlarging one's field of interest over a much greater area, showing one the successes as well as the difficulties of other countries, and making one very much less parochial in outlook. Some very fine lectures and talks were given, and discussion groups played an important part.

Many Lodges in the Section are taking part in the autumn campaign on "The Nature and Power of Thought". This is intended for members as well as the public and it is a real effort to deepen our own thinking in an age of intense lower mind development. We should be striving to lead the way towards the next step, towards buddhi—higher mind—if we are to fulfil the task set for us by our great Founders. We have the teachings,

but have we, except for the very few, done more than touch their outer fringe?

The Federations have continued to be very active and have held regular conferences and study weekends in different parts of the country.

The Theosophical Research Centre has held weekend conferences for study and discussion at Tekels Park, Camberley, and elsewhere. Camps have also been held at Tekels Park again this year, including a Round Table Camp for young people.

The work of the Study and Training Committee during the year has been the completion of the study course "What is Man?", the preparation of a course of training in Group Discussion, and a study course on "The Nature and Power of Thought" for use of the Lodges in connection with the campaign.

The Publicity Department is at present producing several new leaflets for distribution. Some are reprints, but a number are new. Advertising continues, with a slight increase in response from readers of *The Times* Literary and Educational Supplements. Inquiries generally have been slightly fewer, though they have recently shown a tendency to increase.

The tape recording of important lectures has become a routine. Some recordings are passed into the Tape Recorded Lectures Library; others which are not suitable for circulation are used instead

of shorthand reports for reproducing articles for publication.

At our Headquarters Library about 10,000 books have been exchanged during the year. The large postal service continues. There are now nearly 100 non-F.T.S. subscribers.

The Inquiry Room is open daily and the sale of books has been well maintained. Many members from abroad have visited us again this year.

The work of the various groups of the Theosophical Order of Service has continued along the same lines as last year. As regards the work for refugees, money and clothing have not come in quite as freely as last year. Nevertheless, we recently sent out our eighth consignment of clothing for the benefit of the Save the Children Fund, and in addition several individual parcels have been sent each month to specially deserving cases in Yugoslavia, Poland and elsewhere.

The Theosophical Publishing House reports that the following books have been published during the year: *The Reign of the Spirit*, D. Gower (Blavatsky Lecture 1957); *The Charmed Circle*, M. Baudot; *Man Incarnate* (T.R.C. Publication); *Fairies at Work and at Play*, G. Hodson (reprint); *The Brotherhood of Angels and of Men*, G. Hodson (reprint); *Patanjali for Western Readers*, D. R. Stephen (reprint); *Fairies*, E. L. Gardner (reprint).

Alice L. Berry,
General Secretary.

INDIA

The year under review has seen considerable intensification of Theosophical work in India. As I have pointed out in my previous reports, the present is the most opportune time for the spread of the message of Theosophy. Comment-

ing upon the launching of the 'baby moons' by Soviet Russia, India's Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, rightly stated that the time has come when man must rise to higher dimensions of thinking if he is to resolve the crisis created by

science and technology. The work of the Theosophical Society is to indicate to man these higher dimensions of thinking. There never was such an urgency for Right Thinking as there is today. Science and technology are moving at great pace in the direction of conquering space. But the conquest of space will entail much harm to humanity if there does not take place the conquest of Mind.

It is here that the Theosophical Society comes with its unique message. Its message of the conquest of Mind needs to be spread far and wide. What we need today is the New Mind capable of controlling the powers released by science. The message of Theosophy has to be in terms of the creation of the New Mind—the mind divested of all the conditioning factors that undermine its energies due to the distractions and the pulls exercised upon it. The Theosophical Society has to utter this Message of the New Mind, for then alone its teachings will be related to the present day problems of man. Men and women of today are indeed responsive to this message, as is borne out by many Theosophical lecturers and workers throughout the world. Thus, the outer conditions for Theosophical work are most opportune today.

But, as is the saying, while the harvest is plentiful, the labourers are too few. In this country, as probably in other countries too, there is a great paucity of workers who can effectively convey to suffering humanity this message of Theosophy suited to the needs and the requirements of the modern man. The problem of effective workers is of great importance and urgency, particularly in the Indian Section.

The President.—The members of the Indian Section greatly rejoice that the President has regained his health and we pray to the Almighty that he may be

spared for many years to come, so that his wise and inspiring guidance may be vouchsafed to us for the furtherance of Theosophical work throughout the world.

During the year the President could not undertake any lecturing tours either in India or outside—but he presided over the South India Theosophical Conference held at Adyar in the month of April. He also inaugurated the Theosophical Workers' Camp at Adyar. While abroad for a few months, he met a number of workers in different European countries. Needless to say, these personal contacts and interviews were of great value for the development of our work.

Shrimati Rukmini Devi.—Besides being a member of the Indian Parliament, Shrimati Rukmini Devi is engaged in many public activities, educational, cultural, and activities connected with animal welfare and vegetarianism. In connection with these numerous activities she visited a number of places in India. In the course of these travels she addressed meetings arranged by Theosophical Lodges, particularly in Bombay and Delhi.

Lecture Tours.—Shrimati Shridevi Mehta and I visited during the year Lodges in Bihar, Rayalaseema, Marathi, Bombay, Andhra, U. P. and Gujarati Federations. I presided over the Bihar, Bombay and U. P. Theosophical Federations. Both of us participated in the Regional Camp held at Nasik and we also helped in the Camps held at Varanasi and Anakapalle in connection with the Lodge Intensification Plan, as well as in the Theosophical Students' Camp in October 1956 at Surat.

Shrimati Bhagirathi Sri Ram, besides touring in the Tamil Federation, presided over the Andhra Circars Theosophical Federation at Vijayavada.

Miss Florence Pulsford of Australia undertook an extensive tour of the Lodges of the Indian Section during the year,

visiting Lodges in seven different Federations. She also took part in the Regional Camp at Nasik. Her talks everywhere were greatly appreciated.

Shri M. Subramaniam presided over the Rayalaseema, Karnataka and Kerala Theosophical Federations. He also took part in the annual session of the Andhra Circars Theosophical Federation.

Shri Ramachandra Shukla, who was appointed a National Lecturer this year by the Indian Section, presided over the Bengal Theosophical Federation held at Calcutta and the Madhya Bharat Theosophical Federation held at Ratlam. During the year he visited 33 Lodges in seven Federations of the Indian Section.

Shri S. G. Venkataramanan visited during the year 17 Lodges of the Tamil Federation and 13 Lodges of the Rayalaseema Federation.

Shri Harjivan Mehta, besides visiting Lodges in the Gujarati Federation, paid visits to the Lodges of the Delhi Federation and conducted Study Camps at Delhi, Surat, Ahmedabad, Baroda, Broach and Bhavnagar.

Mrs. M. R. Dhalla visited Lodges of the Gujarati Federation as also Lodges at Poona and Nagpur.

Prof. R. Srinivasan visited four Lodges of the Tamil Federation, three Lodges of the Madras Federation and also the Blavatsky Lodge at Bombay.

Shri Shambhu Dayal visited Lodges in the Bombay Federation over and above the Lodges of the Bihar Federation.

Almost all the above lecturers mentioned in their reports that the response from the public so far as the message of Theosophy is concerned is very good. They

state, however, that the Lodges need to organize their publicity work more efficiently. Lack of proper publicity prevents many people from attending Theosophical meetings although they feel an attraction towards the teachings of Theosophy. These lecturers spoke also from the platforms of many other institutions such as the Rotary Club, Schools and Colleges, Bar Associations and religious and cultural organizations.

Membership.—We began the year with a membership of 6,802. During the year 641 new members came into the Society, 210 revived their membership and one member was transferred from another Section. As against this, 57 members died, 13 resigned, 2 members were transferred to other Sections and 531 members dropped out for non-payment of annual dues. Thus the membership of the Indian Section as on 30th September 1957 stands at 7,051—a net increase of 249 members. For the last three years we have witnessed an upward trend in our membership and we have once again crossed the 7,000 limit. Fewer members have had to be dropped this year for non-payment of dues. In fact, the number dropped this year is the lowest for the last ten years.

There are four Federations whose membership exceeds 700—they are the Andhra Circars, Gujarati, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh. The same four Federations have registered the largest number of new admissions during the year. Once again the Karnataka Federation deserves to be congratulated for showing the lowest percentage of members dropped for non-payment of annual dues.

THE REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT SHOWING TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS
IN GOOD STANDING ON 1ST OCTOBER 1957

Federation	Total No. of members on 1-10-56	Add			Total	Deduct				Total	Total No. of members on 1-10-57
		New	Revived	Transfer from other Section		Deaths	Resigned	Transfer to other Sections	Dropped		
Andhra ...	1,131	115	46	...	1,292	4	3	...	87	94	1,198
Bengal ...	252	20	2	...	274	2	...	...	30	32	242
Bihar ...	274	29	12	...	315	3	...	...	43	46	269
Bombay ...	421	27	9	...	457	10	1	2	23	36	421
Delhi ...	129	12	3	...	144	2	...	...	20	22	122
Gujarati ...	720	76	13	...	809	2	1	...	59	62	747
Karnataka ...	777	92	19	...	888	11	1	...	21	33	855
Kerala ...	133	38	10	...	181	3	...	...	14	17	164
Madras ...	289	19	2	...	310	1	2	...	21	24	286
M. P. & Rajasthan ...	227	12	4	...	243	4	...	...	7	11	232
Marathi ...	289	42	3	...	334	5	3	...	16	24	310
Rayalaseema ...	404	39	9	...	452	1	...	...	31	32	420
Tamil ...	550	43	39	1	633	2	1	...	54	57	576
U. P. ...	785	59	22	...	866	5	...	...	82	37	779
Youth ...	178	4	10	...	192	...	...	...	15	15	177
Unattached ...	243	14	7	...	264	2	1	...	8	11	253
Total ...	6,802	641	210	1	7,654	57	13	2	531	603	7,051

Lodges and Centres.—On 1st October 1956 we had 417 duly chartered Lodges affiliated to the Indian Section. During the year the following 7 Lodges were formed and chartered: Asoka in Andhra, Sion in Bombay, Bilkha and Karjan in Gujarati, Mirle and Jalagaranhalli in Karnataka, and Chattrapur in Uttar Pradesh. As against this, 11 Lodges were dissolved. Thus, on 30th September 1957, we had 413 Lodges.

We began the year with 53 Centres. During the year two Centres—Chattrapur

in U.P. and Sion in Bombay—became Lodges. Two new Centres were formed during the year—Saharanpur in U.P. and Pragadaputtuga in Andhra. As against this, six Centres were dissolved. Thus, on 30th September 1957, there were 47 regularly authorized Centres, in all 460 units of the Theosophical Society in India.

Campaign for Key Lodges.—The most important event of the year was the introduction of the Key Lodges Campaign. The purpose of this Campaign is to do intensive work in some of the selected

Lodges of each Federation, somewhat on the lines of the Spotlight work that has been going on in the American Section. So far 41 Lodges in ten Federations have been selected. A Transaction for the use of the Key Lodges has also been issued by the Indian Section. The Key Lodges Campaign consists at present of a fivefold programme:

1. A planned Study Syllabus to be followed in broad outline by the Key Lodges all over India, centering round three main subjects: (1) The Mystery of Suffering, (2) The Mystery of Diversity, and (3) The Mystery of Growth.
2. The organization of a systematic Publicity section in all the Key Lodges;
3. The development of Allied Activities;
4. The introduction of planned Lecture Programmes;
5. Efficiency in Lodge Administration.

During the year, two Camps for the Key Lodges work were held—one at Varanasi and the other at Anakapalle. The main purpose of this Campaign, introduced in the month of July, is to create a certain number of Key Lodges in each Federation and to this end concentrate as much energy and manpower as possible on these Lodges. The fruits of labor put into these Lodges will naturally be available to all the other Lodges and thus the intensive work will give an impetus to extensive work also. The experiment has been introduced for a period of three years. If it succeeds, then its sphere will be extended.

The success of this Campaign very largely depends upon the number of whole-time as well as part-time workers available. Whole-time workers will not be available in large numbers. But much work can be done with the help of part-time workers, and so it is proposed to mobilize as many part-time workers as possible.

Study Camps.—Study Camps have become a regular feature of work in the Andhra, Karnataka, Rayalaseema, Gujarati, Bombay, Bihar and the U.P. Federations. This year, Camps were held in the Delhi and the Marathi Federations also.

Apart from these Provincial Camps, two Regional Camps were held during the year—one at Adyar and the other at Nasik. So far, we have been able to explore only three Centres for our Regional Camps—in the South at Adyar, East at Varanasi and West at or near Bombay. It is necessary to have one such Centre in the North so that all the various Federations can take advantage of the Regional Camps.

Theosophical Conferences.—For the last few years a tradition has been established to have two major Theosophical Conferences during the year—one, the South India Theosophical Conference at Adyar, and the other, the North India Theosophical Conference at Varanasi. This practice should be continued, as these Conferences give opportunity to workers of the various Federations to meet together once a year. This is indeed of great value in the organization of our Theosophical work. During the year, two such Conferences were held, the South India Conference presided over by the President and the North India Conference presided over by the General Secretary.

Annual Conventions.—For the last three years the International Convention of the Theosophical Society has been held at Adyar due to certain unavoidable reasons. The practice of holding Conventions alternately at Adyar and Varanasi, however, still holds good and we are hoping to have the next Convention at Varanasi in December 1958.

Educational Work.—Educational activity has been one of the main features of

the work of Theosophists in India. Two main centres of educational work have been Adyar and Varanasi, but there have been many other centres in different parts of the country. Dr. Besant initiated this educational work in 1898 with the starting of the Central Hindu College at Varanasi. Since 1947 a new era of educational work has begun in this country and I feel that Theosophists in India can play an important role in this field today. Once again a new direction has to be given to educational work in this land. While the starting of educational institutions is one part of the work, the other part is to "educate the educators". It is in this latter category that Theosophists can do much. The nature of work under this category, as I visualize it, is as follows:

1. Establishment of educational centres in different parts of the country;
2. Holding of conferences, debates, symposia on different educational topics;
3. Conducting of a magazine for Theosophical Education;
4. Organization of Educational Exhibitions;
5. Celebration of Education Weeks throughout the country;
6. Holding of Teachers' Seminars;
7. Issuing of small pamphlets dealing with educational topics;
8. Production of suitable Children's literature in various regional languages.

The Besant Education Fellowship, a registered body, was established specifically for educational work. It would be desirable to have branches of this Fellowship started in different parts of the country. It is also of great importance that Theosophist teachers working in various schools and colleges, and those members of the Theosophical Society in India who are interested in education, should meet in conferences from time to time for clarification of ideas. 1958 will be the 60th

year of Dr. Besant's educational work in India. Let us utilize fully this Diamond Jubilee by launching a Theosophical Educational Movement with a view to giving a new direction to educational reconstruction work already going on in this land.

Panda Baijnath Endowment.—I am very happy to report that during the year Shri Panda Baijnath gave Rs. 16,000 to augment the Endowment Fund which he had created some years ago for National Lectureship in India. The Fund now stands at Rs. 50,000, the interest of which is to be utilized for meeting the expenses of National Lecturers to be appointed by the Indian Section.

Indian Section Charter.—Although the Indian Section was formed on 17th November 1890, the Section had received no Charter from the International Society. This may have been due to the fact that the Indian Section functioned from Adyar for a number of years initially. In fact the earliest records of the Indian Section form part of the international records. The President has now issued a Charter to the Indian Section. It was displayed for the first time on 17th November 1957 at the Foundation Day meeting held in the Headquarters Hall of the Indian Section at Varanasi, and will now remain in the Indian Section Office for all to inspect.

Finances.—I am sure the members of the Indian Section realize that the work of the Section is not carried on from the amount realized as annual dues. This amount covers a small part of the expenditure of the Section. Our annual dues are very low compared to the costs that have risen several times in the course of the last ten years. The Section has, therefore, to depend upon voluntary donations to cover its annual deficits. Every year we need about Rs. 12,000 by way of donations. In the course of the

last four years I have been sending letters to all members requesting them to pay Rs. 10 each. I find that the collections out of this appeal cover little over 50 per cent of the deficits. For the remaining 50 per cent we have to depend upon special donations.

I do hope the members will continue to give voluntary support as they have done in the past so that we may not have to take the step of raising the annual dues. I suggest voluntary and enthusiastic effort on the part of all to contribute whatever they can.

Section Headquarters.—The life at the Indian Section Headquarters goes on well. Among the regular activities are the programmes of Kashi Tattva Sabha and the Youth Lodge, the Ritual of the Mystic Star, Group Meditation on Mondays, Household meetings for the Theosophical Community at the Headquarters, the Bharata Samaj Puja, and the Healing Ritual.

The educational work at the Headquarters goes on as usual. We have now four educational institutions: The Besant Theosophical School, the Vasanta Kanya Mahavidyalaya (for girls), the Nursery School and the Music College. All are making good progress. We have two small hostels—for boys and girls—attached to these institutions.

The administrative work at the Headquarters is organized on a Departmental basis. The various branches of work are: Indian Section Office, Section Journal, Indian Book Shop, Indian Section Library, Buildings, Roads, Gardens, Sanitation and Watch and Ward.

I thank all my colleagues for the whole-hearted co-operation they have given me in the administration of the Headquarters Estate. I particularly wish to thank Shri G. R. Venkatram who officiated for me as General Secretary during my absence from the Headquarters and Shri

Damodar Prasad who officiated for me as the Administrator of the Estate.

The most urgent need of the Section Headquarters at present is the renovation of the "Shanti Kunj" building which we have not been able to undertake as there has been rather poor response to the appeals sent out. This year, out of Rs. 15,000 received as an anonymous donation, we have set apart Rs. 5,000 for the renovation of "Shanti Kunj". But we need at least Rs. 5,000 more to meet even the cost of those repairs which cannot be put off any longer.

Conclusion.—In bringing my Report to a close, I wish to state that we should concentrate for three years on the Lodge Intensification Plan introduced this year. I am of opinion that the development of our work depends very largely upon the success of that Plan. It is a sort of pilot project. Its success will give strength to all our Lodges in all the various Federations. For the success of this Plan, I would suggest that all Lodges, and particularly the Key Lodges, should study the Transaction that has been issued. I would also suggest each Federation holding a Camp of the whole-time and part-time workers willing to work for the implementation of this Plan. Further, I wish to suggest that the Key Lodge Study Syllabus may be taken up in its general outline as a Study Syllabus for Provincial Camps.

I would like to repeat what I have stated in the earlier part of this section of the Report: *The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are too few.* Let us mobilize during the year our entire manpower of whole-time and part-time workers and put them into the field so that the work of the Theosophical Society in India may be carried on with great intensity.

ROHIT MEHTA,
General Secretary.

AUSTRALIA

The annual Convention of the Australian Section was held during Easter in the beautiful premises of Melbourne Lodge, with members from all States attending. It was followed by an Easter School, also in Melbourne, when some thoughtful contributions were made, followed by discussion, on some of the deeper aspects of Theosophy.

After ten years as General Secretary of the Australian Section, Mr. J. L. Davidge retired from his office at the Convention, amidst expressions of appreciation for his fine service. He was succeeded by Miss Helen V. Zahara, former Recording Secretary of the International Society, who returned to Australia for a lecture tour in 1956. In addition, Mrs. Joyce Carr, who has served at the Section Headquarters since 1952, was appointed Assistant General Secretary.

At the Convention, the new General Secretary launched an Expansion programme, which has been receiving fine support from the members. Among the projects since introduced or developed as part of this programme have been the following:

(a) Establishment of a Section Slide Library, for use of Lodge lecturers and class leaders.

(b) Expansion of Tape Recording Library.

(c) Preparation of library lists of suggested reading.

(d) The drafting of letters to editors of newspapers in connection with celebrations of public interest, for use by Lodge officers.

(e) Introduction of Newsletter to Lodges from Section Headquarters.

(f) A complete programme on tape produced by a Sydney group, or the script, was offered to Lodges for their Foundation Day programme.

The above activities are based on similar work done in U.S.A. and elsewhere, and there has been material received from U.S.A., England and New Zealand. This co-operation has been much appreciated.

Lecturers.—It was with great regret that members learnt that Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, who arrived in Sydney at the end of May, had to cancel his proposed tour of the Section because of illness.

In order not to disappoint members, arrangements were made for local speakers to visit some of the Lodges. Mr. Charles Hankin went from Melbourne to Cooma, Mrs. Alice McKenzie went from Melbourne to Hobart, and Mr. C. D. T. Shores (former International Treasurer) went from Sydney to Cairns, Atherton, Townsville, Brisbane, Toowoomba and Newcastle. Mr. Norman Hankin of Sydney also visited Cooma. All these visits were very helpful to the work.

Mrs. Betsan Coats of England, who has been in Australia for personal reasons, gave a fine series of lectures for Brisbane Lodge.

Mrs. E. Marion Lavender, en route from New Zealand to Ceylon, visited some of the Lodges, and spent 18 days in Perth.

Broadcasting.—The Section continues to conduct a weekly session from Station 2GB Sydney, with a varied programme.

Section Journal.—*Theosophy in Australia* is published every two months and is edited by the General Secretary.

Lodges.—Two new Lodges were chartered during the year—at Cooma, N.S.W., and Ballarat, Vic. One Lodge, Claremont, W.A., was dissolved. Thus the number of Lodges during the year increased by one and now totals 17.

The Lodges have continued with their regular activities and programmes during the year. The 60th Jubilee of Perth

Lodge occurred on 10th June but the actual celebration was postponed until 20th October. Owing to the vast distances in Australia, it is not possible to have much interchange among the Lodges, except during the annual Convention.

Books for Public Libraries.—Copies of the books *The Other Side of Death* by C. W. Leadbeater and *Reincarnation* by Annie Besant were presented during the year to about 70 libraries throughout Australia and in Norfolk Island. In nearly all cases these were accepted, and many expressions of appreciation were received.

Membership.—The total number of members is 1,216, a decrease of 9 over the previous year. The Section has been losing many of its older workers in recent months, there being 28 names recorded of those who have passed on during the year, as compared with 19 in 1956 and 16 in 1955.

The Young Theosophists continued to be active, especially in the larger Lodges. At Christmas time a very happy camp was held at Narrabeen, near Sydney. During the Easter Convention they held their annual meeting and presented a symposium on "Creative Living".

The Theosophical Order of Service.—The National Director, Mr. Albert Piper, stated at a combined meeting of interstate members at Easter time that highlights from reports received were: the raising of approximately £400 by Brisbane for charitable purposes, the launching in Sydney of a project to provide a home

for elderly members of the Theosophical Society, for which a gift of land had been received, and heartening progress in connection with animal welfare. It was decided that the groups should concentrate chiefly on the following types of activity: welfare of the aged, welfare of children, and welfare of animals.

Adyar.—Two members of the Australian Section left to attend the School of the Wisdom session commencing October 1957—Mrs. Julie Stevens and Mr. Albert Brown. Miss Shirley Macpherson, who attended the last session of the School, remained at Adyar during 1957 and has been assisting at the Adyar Library.

The Section contributed approximately £212 during the year toward Adyar funds.

General.—In introducing the theme "Expansion" for the year's work, the idea was not suggested merely for propaganda, but to apply to the work of the Section and Lodges and to each one's own study of the ancient wisdom and awareness, as well as the expression of Theosophy in daily life. In order for the Society to grow in strength and vitality, Theosophy must be a living and expanding power in the lives of those who seek to share it with others, whether in their Lodge and Section activities, or through personal contact. As we witness the nuclear arms race, the message of Theosophy continues to be greatly needed in the world.

HELEN V. ZAHARA,

General Secretary.

SWEDEN

The work in the Section has been carried on as in preceding years, the main activities continuing in the Lodges, many of which have public lectures besides the

regular Lodge studies. Four of the Lodges outside the capital have received visits by the General Secretary and some other lecturers.

The Section has had the benefit of several visitors from abroad. Mr. Otto Viking from Denmark came in February and gave appreciated talks at a weekend at Headquarters and in several Lodges. Mrs. Josephine Ransom was the guest of honor and main speaker at Convention in May. She won the hearts of all by her great friendliness and gave much inspiration in sharing with us some of her vast and deep knowledge of Theosophy and of the history and work of the Theosophical Society. Professor A. M. Haas from Holland gave an interesting lecture on Theosophical Research when he visited Stockholm in June. Mr. John Coats from England came for the Swedish Summer School, held at the end of July at Stensund, a beautiful place at the Baltic, and attended by some 50 members.

In the Swedish Section the annual Summer School is an important event of the year, giving the best opportunity for

members from all over the country to come together and listen to good lectures, take part in study groups, exchange ideas with others and see old and new friends. This year the theme chosen was "The search for a new consciousness". Mr. Coats, in a series of talks, gave many fine points of view, treating the subject from many angles. This was added to in discussions and study groups by other members.

The Section magazine, *Teosofisk Tidsskrift*, has been issued, but unfortunately it has been necessary this year to reduce the number of issues because of financial difficulties.

The number of Lodges has decreased by two, being at present 19. The membership is 403, which means an increase of 10 since the last report.

GÖSTA LINDSTRÖM,
General Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND

I have much pleasure in presenting the sixty-first annual Report of the New Zealand Section.

On 24th October 1956, Mr. Brian Dunningham, then General Secretary of the New Zealand Section, resigned from this office for reasons connected with health and business. Mrs. Roma Dunningham also resigned from the office of Editor of *Theosophy in New Zealand*. Their resignations were received with great regret. On the recommendation of Mr. Dunningham, I was elected as acting General Secretary until Convention.

Mr. Dunningham, during his three years of office, worked tirelessly for Theosophy and the New Zealand Section. At Convention a sincere vote of thanks was

passed to both Mr. and Mrs. Dunningham for their splendid work for the Society.

Convention.—1956 was the year of New Zealand's Diamond Jubilee and the splendid and inspiring Jubilee Convention of 1956-57 marked an epoch in the life of the Section. One hundred and ninety members assembled in the capital city of Wellington for this unique occasion. After the General Secretary's address of welcome, at an evening reception, visitors and delegates brought greetings from their Sections and Lodges and Mr. Geoffrey Hodson spoke on "The Diamond Jubilee Convention". On the morning of 28th December, the Convention was formally opened and Miss Sandra Chase was duly elected General Secretary and Editor of

Theosophy in New Zealand for the ensuing year. After the business of Convention was completed, there was a most interesting programme of lectures, illustrated talks and group discussions, including a splendid symposium by Young Theosophists, picnics and an entertainment. The John Ross Thomson Lecture, delivered at Convention by Miss Helen V. Zahara, was a scholarly survey of movements in the world in the direction of Theosophy.

The Summer School which followed Convention included members' study classes and meetings, and conferences of allied organizations.

Donations.—Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Pollock of the New Plymouth Lodge kindly offered to receive and sell used postage stamps for the benefit of the Penny-a-Day and Voluntary Fund which is a means of adding to the somewhat slender income of the Section.

The Section is indebted to Mrs. E. Marion Lavender for her generous donation to the Section of the manuscript of her book *Ten Minute Talks on Theosophy*.

A gift of £5,500 from an anonymous donor enabled the Section to purchase a valuable property situated opposite the Section Headquarters in Auckland. Deepest gratitude was expressed by Convention for such a munificent gift.

Visiting Lecturers.—Mrs. E. Marion Lavender completed her extended tour of the New Zealand Section after the Diamond Jubilee Convention, leaving in April for a visit to Australia and later to Pakistan. She earned the gratitude and appreciation of the members of the Section for her strenuous and successful efforts to bring Theosophy to both members and public.

Miss Helen V. Zahara carried out a strenuous and highly successful three months' tour of the Section, beginning on 10th January and finishing at the end of March. She won the hearts of the mem-

bers and gave of her best in her fine public presentations of Theosophy.

Mr. Geoffrey Hodson was warmly welcomed back to New Zealand on his return late in 1956 from his tour of U.S.A., Canada, Mexico and Cuba. From January to May 1957, he toured the New Zealand Section, visiting every one of its Lodges. As a world lecturer of long experience, Mr. Hodson imparts to the membership and to the public a strong conviction of the truth of the Theosophical teachings. His deep sincerity and wisdom inspire and uplift all who hear him.

Mr. H. H. Banks, who has for fifty years been a most devoted worker in New Zealand, visited many of our Lodges. The Section is indebted to him for his skilful drawing of the cover design for *Theosophy in New Zealand*.

Miss Mary Graham, National Lecturer, visited a number of Lodges before she left in September to attend the School of the Wisdom at Adyar. She will represent the New Zealand Section at the International Convention.

The General Secretary.—I myself was scheduled to tour the Section in July and August of this year but news came early in June that Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, who had left for a tour of Australia, had suffered a breakdown in health and was in hospital, and I was obliged to go to Sydney. It was not until 26th August that Mr. Hodson was flown home in charge of his New Zealand physician. He was taken at once to a hospital in Whangarei where he daily made progress towards health and strength. Throughout my absence from Headquarters, the work has been carried on by Miss Clarice E. Gregory, Assistant General Secretary, and the honorary staff.

Membership.—The work of the Section has gone steadily forward this year and the membership has increased to 1,105, as against 1,063 last year.

Penny-a-Day and Voluntary Fund.—This Fund and donations are the means whereby the Section increases its slender income, as Section dues are insufficient to pay for the magazine and general work of Headquarters. The response to the appeal this year amounted to £490.

Arundale Lodge, Tauranga.—On 10th July a new Lodge was chartered at Tauranga under the name of Arundale Lodge, where a dedicated and enthusiastic group of Theosophists is working hard to bring Theosophy to Tauranga.

Theosophy in New Zealand.—The Section magazine has appeared this year with a new format and cover, and much appreciation has been expressed concerning the changes and the fine articles dealing with the deeper aspects of Theosophy.

Tape Library.—The Tape Library continues to do fine work in meeting a growing need for good public lectures and members' talks on Theosophical subjects. It has been rearranged and carefully catalogued and new lectures are continually being added to the list.

The Young Theosophists of New Zealand made a valuable contribution to the success of the Diamond Jubilee Convention. They gave a Symposium in which useful and practical suggestions for the improvement of the work were made. Youth Groups are active in Auckland, Christchurch and Whangarei, where the young people study the deeper Theosophical teachings.

Vasanta Garden School.—At the beginning of the year, the Section had the pleasure of welcoming to Auckland Miss Caroline Stuart Burns, M.A., the new Principal of Vasanta Garden School. Miss Burns is a highly qualified teacher with wide and varied experience of teaching, and the School has flourished under her guidance. She has been aided by the invaluable help and support of Miss Daphne V. Darroch, to whose qualifications as a teacher Miss Burns

has paid a high tribute. Miss Darroch has remained at Vasanta in charge of the Lower School. Plans are now in hand for the building of new classrooms.

The Theosophical Order of Service in New Zealand is under the National Directorship of Mr. Brian Dunningham. The year has been a quiet one, but not without some progress. The T.O.S. has continued to be represented on the Auckland Youth Council. Much good work has been done in establishing Healing Groups and in assisting the Howard League for Penal Reform. An acceleration of the T.O.S. work in certain specified fields is anticipated as the result of recent National Executive discussions and decisions.

Orewa Easter School.—An Easter School was again held at Orewa, a beautiful holiday resort some thirty-five miles from Auckland, where a property has been purchased. A large number of members attended and participated in the ceremony of the dedication of the property, which comprises six acres of land and a number of buildings. The members are planning to build flats for the older workers, and to accommodate conferences, Young Theosophist gatherings and members on holidays.

In conclusion I would like to say that the number of Lodges of the New Zealand Section has now reached twenty. The members of each of them will, I feel sure, continue to the best of their ability to carry on the true work of the Theosophical Society which may be summed up in the following words from the *Mahatma Letters*:

"The only object to be striven for is the amelioration of the condition of MAN by the spread of Truth suited to the various stages of his development and that of the country he inhabits or belongs to".

SANDRA CHASE,
General Secretary.

NETHERLANDS

Membership.—Although in the year under review more new members (80) were admitted than in the previous year (63), there was a decrease of 11 in the total membership because of an increase in resignations (45), deaths (28), and lapsings (13), while the transfers to other Sections outnumbered those from other Sections by 5. The membership at 1st October 1957 was 1,630.

General Work.—The Lodges continued their usual activities. One of them, after some years of rest, showed renewed life. Three regional meetings of representatives of Lodges in different parts of the country were organized in order to discuss new ways and methods to invigorate the life flowing through the Lodges. These meetings were well attended and surely will contribute to the goal aimed at.

Diamond Jubilee of the Section.—The Jubilee Convention was celebrated on the 26th May at The Hague. The local Lodge, commemorating its 60th anniversary at the same time, offered its

building for the occasion. About 225 members attended this meeting, during which the General Secretary gave a sketch of the founding of the Section in 1897 and referred to the outstanding group of workers in those early years.

Summer School of the Section.—A most successful Summer School was held at Amersfoort, 9th to 14th July, on the estate and in the buildings of the International School of Philosophy. The annual gathering of the Theosophical Research Centre was combined with the Summer School, an average of 80 members attending the meetings.

Headquarters at Amsterdam.—A plan is being prepared to build a new lecture room on the ground floor of one of the houses in which our Headquarters are established. We hope by carrying out this plan next year to make this centre of our work better equipped for it.

B. WOUTERS,
General Secretary.

FRANCE

This year we have again to register a decrease in the number of our members. This was due to lapsings and resignations, for we had the pleasure of registering 90 new admissions.

Public interest continues in conferences and lectures given in Paris and in the larger French towns.

Our annual National Convention, held in Paris, was most harmonious; we were happy to have its work conducted under the presidency of a sister Section General Secretary, Mr. Chapellier of Belgium.

Our difficulties of recent years with a number of members resigning, have now subsided and we are able to give our full energies to Theosophical work.

We continue to include in our publications the "Watch Tower Notes" of President Sri Ram as well as articles of particular interest to our members from *The Theosophist*.

Some new lecturers have added their talent to our programmes and are much appreciated.

FRANCIS BRUNEL,
General Secretary.

ITALY

The 43rd National Convention of the Italian Section was held in Rimini at the end of September 1957. There are 32 Lodges in 21 cities, all of them working earnestly at the application of Theosophical principles to the solution of the problems of modern life, and in defence of Theosophical culture against the conformist indifference of the in-

tellectuals, trusting in the ultimate victory of the great Theosophical ideals.

The Lodges of Rome, Naples, Florence and Milan hold public lectures as well as members' meetings for the spreading of Theosophical thought.

GIUSEPPE FILIPPONIO,
General Secretary.

GERMANY

In this report there appears a rather large decrease of the number of members for the last year. This is not due to resignations, as there has not been a single one, but 10 members have died and we have been obliged to remove from our lists many members who have not paid their annual fees for more than two years without giving any explanation. So there is a little hope that they will be readmitted some day.

In the course of this adjustment some of our Lodges no longer have seven members and have become centres only. Therefore we have a decrease of Lodges and an increase of centres, the total number of groups remaining the same.

In all groups the regular study work, lectures and discussions have been continued. At the end of July we had the seventh Summer School in Rendsburg which was attended by 60 members from all parts of our country, including several visitors from Berlin and a few also from behind the Iron Curtain. As guest lecturers we had Miss Kenderdine from England and Mrs. Karin Blichfeldt from Denmark, both of whom gave several fine lectures. A number of German speakers also participated. The general theme of the Summer School was "Theosophy as

the Spiritual Basis of Practical Life." There has been a close contact between our foreign guests and the German members. As in all previous Summer Schools, we had excellent music by well-known musicians from Lubeck. We were very happy that the General Secretary of the European Federation, Mr. van Dissel, could preside as our guest of honor at this Summer School. On the closing day Mr. John Coats and two young Theosophists—one from U.S.A. and the other from Finland—were present and brought the greetings of their Sections. Mr. Wikström, the former General Secretary for Sweden, also paid a short visit with his wife. So our Summer School had a double success; on the one hand it brought together once again many friends and co-workers from our own country and, on the other hand, through the contact with friends of other countries, all members experienced the spirit of real international brotherhood.

During this Summer School we held the General Meeting of the German Section which takes place every three years. At this meeting, with Mr. van Dissel in the Chair, the election of the General Secretary of our Section took place. I was re-elected for another period of three

years, 321 of the 329 voting members having voted in favor of this re-election. The whole gathering was held in a spirit of great harmony and brotherliness. It seems to me very important that a number of young people have been elected as members of the Section Committee, and are willing to take gradually more and more of the work on their younger shoulders.

During the first days of January 1957 my wife and I attended the meeting of the General Council of the European Federation in Huizen and had some happy days in our beautiful Centre.

At the end of April I took part in the gathering of the German-speaking regional group in Basel, Switzerland, and in August I again stayed in Huizen with

some other members of the German Section for another meeting of the General Council and its Executive and for the International Week.

There have been successful discussions with regard to the Adyar Publishing House in Graz, Austria, and it was decided to print a new issue of *The Ancient Wisdom* by Dr. Annie Besant, in German.

Altogether we have had a very successful year of work with many activities. Perhaps I may mention at the end of my report that we joined in the work of helping friends in Hungary, and it has been possible for us to supply friends in Poland with Theosophical literature which was wanted by them.

MARTIN BOYKEN,
General Secretary.

CUBA

We are pleased to enclose statistics of our Section for the 12 months ending 30th September 1957, from which you will notice that in spite of the fact that another Lodge was dissolved (Lodge Blavatsky, in the city of Fomento, Las Villas province), we have had an increase of 16 members in the Section's total membership.

We have been doing our best in order to strengthen the Theosophical work in our country but, unfortunately, to the state of weakness already in existence among our Lodges, we have to add the abnormal political situation which has, by reflection, to a great extent obstructed the work in general, both of the Section and in the Lodges.

However, we are glad to report that in the city of Holguín, in the province of Oriente, our Lodge José J. Martí is broadcasting Theosophical articles each Sunday, this work being done by Brother Pompeyo Díaz Fernández, a devoted

member and Treasurer of the aforementioned Lodge.

Furthermore, several members from the Havana City Lodges, such as Brothers Ramón Mayola, Alfredo Puig, Jr., Juan Alfonso Sánchez and Juan Cruz Bustillo, have given lectures and talks for members and sympathizers at other cities. Brother Juan Alfonso Sánchez gave a series of six lectures and talks at Lodge Dharma, in Matanzas, and his wife, Dr. Encarnación Sánchez, also gave some talks in the same place.

The General Secretary of the Puerto Rican Section, Mrs. Esperanza C. Hopgood, spent about two months in our country, and although she was unable to officially visit our Lodges, due to some family affairs which kept her busy all the time, she presented to us a series of radio talks and lectures from the American Section which her collaborators at Puerto Rico had translated into Spanish.

These lectures and talks are now being reproduced by us with the idea that they may be used not only in Cuba and Puerto Rico, but throughout all the Latin American countries. The cost of the printing is to be met by the Latin American Sections which will benefit from this work, made possible by the efforts of our brothers at Puerto Rico and the special interest of their General Secretary. As this is a constructive and successful work, which has materialized through the co-operation of the Latin American Sections, we have thought it advisable to mention it in our report. The pamphlets are intended for free distribution among members and sympathizers, but the main object is to broadcast these messages by radio.

We must also mention that a group of workers in our Section has taken the task

of translating into Spanish the international comments which appear monthly in *The Theosophist*, under the heading "On the Watch Tower," in order to have these comments republished by the Committee of Theosophical Teachings in the form of a small pamphlet which is being distributed free not only in Cuba, but throughout all the Spanish-speaking countries in Latin America.

Notwithstanding the surrounding abnormal conditions we have kept the work as much alive as possible under the circumstances, and we are now looking forward to the contemplated trip to Cuba next year of the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, by which time we hope the situation will be absolutely normal.

ARMANDO ALFONSO LEDÓN,
General Secretary.

HUNGARY

No Report

FINLAND

I am very happy to submit this annual Report of the work done in the Finnish Section of the Theosophical Society during 1956-57. It has been a year of steady and devoted effort rather than of spectacular advance, though the work has been carried on mainly along the old lines.

The working season in the autumn of 1956 began with a meeting in Helsinki, when three of our members who had taken part in the European Congress at Baden described the progress of the Congress and their impressions of the journey.

In Helsinki, public lectures were arranged every Sunday. On Saturdays the Lodges held public meetings with discussion, questions and answers. At these meetings the members had a good chance to expound just those aspects of Theosophy that were of importance to the questioner.

The General Secretary and some members of the Executive Committee visited the Lodges in different parts of the country.

The work of the Young Theosophists has been lively during the past winter.

To assist Hungary, they arranged a festival in December, raising 14,000 Finnish marks which were given to the Red Cross. Young people have held a meeting every fortnight, studying Theosophy.

The Round Table and the Lotus Circle have carried on their work as before.

A celebration of the 2,500th birth anniversary of the Lord Buddha took place in November.

In May Mrs. Josephine Ransom from England paid a much appreciated visit to Helsinki. She gave four lectures to members and encouraged our work in many ways.

Members in Helsinki rented a weekend villa for the summer. It lies in beautiful surroundings in the outskirts of the city. In June when we had the privilege to welcome Professor A. M. Haas from the Netherlands, he gave a very interesting lecture there. Some 70 members were present. During summer every weekend was marked by activities, about 30-40 members always being present.

At the Kreivilä summer-home a Summer School was held at the beginning of July. During this course we had the

pleasure of having with us Mr. John Coats, Mr. Roland Mitford-Barberton from South Africa, and Mr. John Roine from California, all of whom delivered lectures. The members especially appreciated Mr. Coats' presence and the wonderful speeches he gave. These friends from overseas imparted an international atmosphere to the Summer School and greatly inspired us. Our own people, too, delivered some lectures, and various questions were discussed. About 55 members attended.

The membership now amounts to 513 persons against 538 in the previous year; 13 new members have joined the Society, but there have been 12 deaths and 26 resignations.

I am sorry to say that in recent years the membership has been going down; perhaps this is due to the uncertain times and our own inability to present Theosophy interestingly enough. We older members set our hopes on the young people and will carry on, trying to do our best.

SIGNE ROSVALL,
General Secretary.

RUSSIA

Section Dissolved

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

No Report

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Observation.—As we go forward with our work, we realize more and more the very real need there is in the world today for the recognition of the Brotherhood of Humanity.

Our aim is for a Universal Brotherhood, not a brotherhood prejudiced by creed, color or political views. South Africa is a country of many races and colors, and for various reasons the vast

bulk of the non-Whites are against the Whites. But how are we to prevent this? They may not be ready for our Theosophical teaching, but some gesture of good-will might at least prevent these eight million from becoming Communists and enemies. Our motto "There is no religion higher than truth" is an intellectual one to tell the world that we are unbiassed by religious views and that all religions are the same to us. Here in South Africa we need a slogan such as "We stand for Good-will to all Mankind" and it should appear on every advertisement, programme and publication, until everyone knows it.

Mrs. Mary Patterson.—Arrangements had been made for Miss Sandra Chase to visit the Section but on her election to the post of General Secretary for New Zealand she had to cancel this tour. Mr. N. Sri Ram, International President, then generously offered to send Mrs. Patterson from Adyar. We were very grateful for this and she was guest of honor at our 29th annual Convention held in Pretoria from the 19th to 22nd April 1957. After Convention, Mrs. Patterson lectured throughout the Section, visiting all our Lodges from Salisbury to Cape Town. She then left for the East African Section. We were greatly helped and

inspired by her lectures and talks to members and are very grateful to Adyar for giving us the opportunity to have her visit us.

Geoffrey Hodson.—We are sorry that through ill health Mr. Hodson has had to cancel the tour he proposed to make here in 1958 and hope that he will soon make a complete recovery.

Miss Clara Codd is at present in England but her plans include a visit to America, and she is not expected back here until December 1958.

Coast Group Gathering.—This September we held another gathering at George for our smaller Lodges. This was well attended by members from George, Cape Town, Somerset West, Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown, East London and Fish Hoek and much useful work was done. Mrs. Patterson was the guest speaker.

Membership.—Our total membership for the Section now stands at 628, a decrease of 37 from last year's total. This does not mean that we are losing ground for we have actually gained many new members, but in bringing our books up to date we have crossed off those who have lapsed.

I. MITFORD-BARBERTON,

General Secretary.

SCOTLAND

The Scottish Section at the moment seems to be shrinking in numbers, but I do not think this applies to the vitality and life of the Section, for there definitely is a spirit of enquiry and interest from the public which is very encouraging. Whether this will manifest in increased membership remains to be seen, but at least Theosophical teachings and ideas are being more widely spread, and this is all to the good.

The general work of the Section has gone on steadily all through the year in the various Lodges, through members' meetings, study classes and public lectures. Our visiting lecturers have included Mrs. E. C. Clarke, of Stockton-on-Tees, Mr. R. Hartley, Leeds, and Mr. J. Coats, London. We have also used tape recorded lectures with great interest and success, both at members' meetings and for the public, and we hope in time

to acquire a library of some of these records. Our own members have been very good and helpful in giving lectures to fill in many vacant dates.

At the beginning of 1957 the Glasgow Lodges agreed to amalgamate for the carrying on of the activities in that city, with a view to strengthening the work there and also reducing expenses. At the same time the Lodges concerned retained their own Charters, so that they could resume their work in their own districts at any time this was thought to be advisable.

Work for refugees has been well maintained through the year; money, food and clothing are still being provided by the members and distributed where the need is greatest, but much yet remains to be accomplished. The Besant Memorial Library in Edinburgh, and the Library in Glasgow, are still carried on by devoted members and prove to be a very useful and helpful means of interesting the public.

Foundation Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day all find their place in our programmes and are celebrated in their own special ways, offerings being sent to the International Headquarters for the various funds connected with these occasions.

Our annual Convention was held at Headquarters in Edinburgh on Saturday and Sunday, 29th and 30th June. Our guest of honor was Miss Clara Codd, who made a return visit to Scotland after an absence of many years. When the

formal business of Convention was over, Miss Codd was warmly welcomed by the General Secretary who spoke of the work done in Scotland by Miss Codd in the earlier days of the movement, and expressed our appreciation of her kindness in visiting us again and renewing old ties. Miss Codd then brought greetings from South Africa and spoke to the members on "The Path to the Masters of the Wisdom". In the evening an informal social gave the members an opportunity of meeting Miss Codd and having conversation with her. Some delightful music and readings were provided, and Miss Codd told some of her experiences as a touring lecturer, and in this way we spent a very happy evening. On Sunday Miss Codd spoke to members on "The Arcane Schools, Past, Present and Future" and for the public lecture in the evening the subject chosen was "Life on the Other Side of Death".

I feel sure that all who attended our Convention were helped and refreshed by the warm and gracious presence of Miss Codd, and took with them to their various Lodges memories of a happy and helpful Convention.

Our membership is now 215. A small number, but we work with hope and with the knowledge that no effort is lost and that if each member offers a dedicated life to this service all will be well.

JEAN ALLAN,
General Secretary.

SWITZERLAND

The membership of our Section stands at 234, with 12 Lodges, 4 Centres and a Youth group. Last year we had 226 members; there has therefore been an increase of 8 in our numbers. One of our old members died, 5 resigned,

13 people joined the Society and there was one transfer from the English Section.

The regular Lodge work has been progressing steadily and has certainly been fruitful. Keeping interest in Theosophy alive and active within every member is

very often a problem, but this year we derived fresh inspiration and a new impulse from visitors from abroad. We were honored by visits from Mr. Axel von Fielitz-Coniar, Mr. John Coats and Dr. and Mrs. Laurence Bendit, all of whom gave public lectures and talks to members. Some Lodges have formed discussion groups and are very active.

Public work continues as before, and some new members joined the Society as a result of hearing a series of lectures given at the Headquarters in Geneva. Sometimes advertising methods are employed and these have been found more or less successful.

Mr. A. Sassi, Mr. G. Tripet and the General Secretary gave lectures in France and Belgium.

The attempt to form a Youth group has met with a certain amount of success; a few young people meet regularly to study Theosophy. Fourteen children work happily in the Round Table at Basel.

The annual Convention of the Section took place at our Headquarters in Geneva. It was well attended and the atmosphere throughout was very harmonious. We were happy to have Mr. von Fielitz-Coniar and Mr. Coats as our guest speakers.

The Regional Committee of the German-speaking Sections met in Basel for the fifth time on the 27th and 28th April. The General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe, the General Secretaries of the German, Austrian and Swiss Sections and other delegates were present. Through what is accomplished every year at this meeting the ideals of Theosophy are effectively diffused and, moreover, a stimulus is provided for the work of our Section.

Since the beginning of 1957, *Adyar*, the magazine for the German-speaking part

of Switzerland (we speak four languages in our country: German, French, Italian and English) has had a new editor. Dr. Lauppert, who did this work so well before, has many other obligations so that it was impossible for him to continue as editor. The numbers which have appeared under the new editor, Mr. E. Rösch, Wiesbaden, are very much appreciated. *Clarté*, for French-speaking members, seems to be as greatly appreciated as *Adyar*.

Those who administer the Order of Service have very much to do—help is being continued for refugees in Greece and Yugoslavia, and parcels of clothes and food are regularly sent.

The General Secretary, with one delegate and a few other members from Switzerland, was in Huizen during the International Week. We were very happy to be there with beloved friends from all over the world.

There was an opportunity to take part in a Summer School for both French-speaking and German-speaking members. For the fourth time people from German-speaking Sections met at Pichl and I can say that the work which was done during the week was very fine and important. The members were much interested in the lectures and discussions which took place. Pichl is situated in a lovely valley in the Austrian mountains and to contact friends we had excursions which were much appreciated. The Austrian members were very happy that the School was organized at Pichl again this year, because it is almost impossible for them to go to another country and only a few speak English. We all are very thankful to the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe for having founded this Regional work.

CLAIRE WYSS,
General Secretary.

BELGIUM

This year we had a most happy Convention on 23rd June.

Membership.—We had 356 members in 1956 and now have 375. Twenty-two new members joined but because of the passing over of 3 members, we can only acknowledge an increase of 19. This signifies that in our country there is one member to more than 20,000 inhabitants. We console ourselves by saying that quality makes up for quantity. All the same, each of us ought to examine his own conscience and ask himself whether he has developed his "quality" to a point sufficient for him to face up to all his responsibilities as a Theosophist towards 20,000 people. I must hasten to add that both in Brussels and in the provinces there are many members who work very well, very humbly, and without measuring their efforts.

Lodges.—We have 12 Lodges, the same as last year: 7 in Brussels, 3 in Antwerp, 1 in Liège and 1 in Ghent. Our hope of last year has been realized so far as Lodge Lumiere is concerned, for it has successfully organized a study course on Theosophy. Since October they have resumed their Meditation course and a course for lecturers.

Those members who are interested in the relationship between Science and Theosophy have decided to co-operate in the work of Blavatsky Lodge, which for many years has been pursuing this study under the direction of our Hon. General Secretary, Mr. Gaston Polak.

Lotus Bleu Lodge is directing its studies towards Esoteric Astrology—a subject little known in Belgium.

Lectures.—Twenty-seven lecturers, of whom nine were non-members, and numerous artistes, have given 34 lectures to the public at Brussels, drawing audiences of from 60 to 100 people. The Lodges at Liège, Ghent and Antwerp also gave one or two public lectures a week.

Seventeen members attended the European Congress at Baden in Austria, where our General Secretary, Mr. Th. Chapellier, was the leader of one of the discussion groups.

The General Secretary also gave a lecture at the Headquarters of the French Section at Paris on the occasion of the annual Convention.

The Belgian Section is responsible for the organization each year at Brussels of the French Regional Committee. It will also organize in September the Summer School of the French-speaking Sections at Louette St. Pierre in the Ardennes (Belgium), the theme being "Responsibilities of the Theosophist".

Finally, the members in Brussels are making plans for the Universal Exhibition in Brussels in 1958. A Reception Committee will meet members and friends from abroad and in our premises at Brussels there will be an exhibition of works of art.

TH. CHAPELLIER,
General Secretary.

INDONESIA

Membership.—To the 22 Lodges, 1 Centre, and 850 members as at 30th September 1956 there were added during

the year, two new Lodges and 125 members. Outgoing members numbered 55, bringing the totals as at 30th September

1957 to 24 Lodges, 1 Centre and 920 members, an increase of 70 persons.

Activities.—The Section held its annual meeting at Bandung from 19th to 22nd April 1957. At this meeting the following decisions were made:

The social activities of the Lodges will be made more active and better organized.

This year the translation of the book *First Principles of Theosophy*, by C. Jinārādāsa, will be printed. This printing has already been commenced by the Young Theosophists at Semarang.

Mr. Soemardjo was re-elected President of the Section for three years (1957-60).

Mr. Soebroto was appointed commissary of foreign affairs.

The Section's magazine will be issued more regularly.

In connection with the "new life movement" which was proclaimed by President Soekarno to the people of Indonesia in August last, the Section has recommended to its members that each one make his contribution towards the realization of this movement.

At Blavatsky Lodge, Djakarta, and Timur Lodge, Malang, a group of the Theosophical Order of Service has been formed and works for world peace and the welfare of the land.

At east and west Java successful district meetings between the Lodges in the respective areas have been held.

From 17th August to 9th October 1957, Mr. Soemardjo, the President of the Section, was abroad by order of the Indonesian Government. He visited England, the Netherlands, Greece, Egypt and India. In England, the Netherlands and Greece he visited the National Sections of the Society and in India he stayed at Adyar, the International Headquarters, for some days. Wherever he went he was welcomed by the members. Mr. Soemardjo sends his thanks for this reception, in particular for all the kindness he received at the Headquarters of the Society at Adyar.

SOEMARDJO,

General Secretary.

BURMA

The main centre of Theosophical activity in Burma is the Olcott Lodge, Rangoon.

Theosophical functions, such as Adyar Day, White Lotus Day and Foundation Day were duly celebrated; so also were Dr. Annie Besant's birthday and United Nations Day. Sunday morning lectures, which were open to the public, were regularly held, a month's programme being issued in advance. The subjects dealt with in these lectures ranged from Theosophy to Philosophy and Religion, and also lives of religious leaders.

U Maung Maung Ji, who had the unique fortune of having his early education in India under Theosophical auspices

was able to contribute 11 lectures, not only on Theosophy and Buddhism, but also interesting anecdotes on his contact with the leaders of the Theosophical Society.

The Wednesday evening Theosophical study classes were regularly held, but the attendance was rather poor. Towards the close of the year, a new study class, in Burmese, on "The Essence of Buddhism" was added to our other usual activities. The attendance at these lectures was very encouraging and comprised monks and nuns.

The Youth Lodge has, as usual, given useful service by being helpful especially

in our social activities. At the Lotus Lodge in Mandalay, regular Theosophical classes were held at a member's residence. The Blavatsky Lodge at Maymyo seems to be suffering a setback, as very few active members are now left. It is regretted that circumstances have not proved favorable for the revival of the other Lodges which were rendered dormant as a result of the last World War.

The Book Depot in Rangoon was able to replenish its depleted stock by obtaining K 2500 worth of new books during the year from the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar. Some of the important books on Theosophical subjects have gone out of stock again, and hence a new consignment will have to be obtained to supply the increasing demand for such literature.

As in the previous years, members of the Rangoon Lodges took active interest in the work of the Burma Humanitarian League. It is a source of happiness to record the fact that, due to its endeavors, Government has been gracious enough to close all slaughter-houses throughout the country for no less than 26 days in a year on important National and Buddhist religious days. Animal sacrifices have also been stopped by the League at several Hindu Temples in and around Rangoon. Amongst other free literature, a lakh copies of a Burmese translation of a leaflet entitled *The Two Dhammas*, by C. Jinarājadāsa, was printed and distributed during the year.

The Burma Educational Trust School is now running as a full-fledged Middle

School. Some difficulty is being experienced owing to the introduction of the new educational policy of Government and the necessity of having to maintain two different sections, one for purely Tamil children and another for those taking the Burmese syllabus.

The following booklets by Dr. Annie Besant have now been duly translated into Burmese: *Karma, Reincarnation, and Man and His Bodies*. They will soon be printed for the benefit of those not acquainted with the English language.

One happy sign of the Theosophical movement in Burma is the fact that more and more Burmese members, who profess the Buddhist Orthodox religion, are beginning to become attracted to the activities of the Society. It is felt that more such members will come in as more opportunities are offered for the study of Buddhism, both in English and Burmese.

At the close of the year there were 73 members. There were 3 new admissions, 3 lapsings, 1 death and 3 transfers. The departure to India of Mrs. Rose Shroff has deprived Burma of the invaluable services of a good Theosophical worker. The necessity of having more nationals for active service is to be greatly stressed.

Six libraries were supplied with a subscription to *The Theosophist* for the second year in succession, the donation being made by an old Theosophist.

PO LAT,

General Secretary.

AUSTRIA

Activities.—This year there were 12 active Lodges in our Section. Lodges Alcyone, Gnosis I and Einheit held fort-

nightly meetings in Vienna. Lodge Pythagoras started a study course on Theosophy using the methods of the

Research Centre of the Theosophical Society in England. Four speakers introduced the topics which would be discussed at the next meetings. This work commenced successfully but after the death of the leader of the Lodge, Mr. Karl Riedel, it had to be stopped, and the Lodge became dormant. Lodges Aletheia, Orpheus and Lux in Tenebris worked in their usual ways in the apartments of their leaders in Vienna.

In the spring Mrs. Helene Schleifer arranged three meetings for young people in her private rooms. The talks given were: "Theosophical Work in Siberian Captivity," "Magnetic Healing" and an illustrated talk on "The Architecture of Greece and Egypt".

The Lodges in Graz, Bruck and Linz met fortnightly in private homes.

Public Lectures.—In Vienna the General Secretary gave seven public lectures on the general topic "Theosophy and its Origins in East and West," and Dr. Oskar Hugl lectured twice on "The Doctrines of Emanuel Kant and their Coincidence with Theosophy".

In May the General Secretary lectured in the three local Lodges in Linz, Graz and Bruck.

Relief Work.—On the occasion of the celebration of our three Festival Days (anniversary of the foundation of the Section, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day) many members in Vienna contributed money and clothing for Hungarian friends, formerly members of the Society in Budapest. During the year money was collected in Vienna and distributed to five Theosophical refugees from Hungary. These Hungarian brothers, and other members from abroad, were invited into the homes of some of the Austrian members. In addition to that, the Section invited two friends from Budapest and one stalwart Theosophical worker from

the southern part of the Iron Curtain to the 4th German Regional Summer School at Pichl (Austria) as its guests. They were very much impressed with the work of the Summer School and brought a very enthusiastic spirit to the gathering themselves.

Visitors from Abroad.—At Christmas time a Polish engineer visited the General Secretary in Vienna and brought warm greetings from his mother and other members of the late Polish Section. At his request Theosophical books in German and in English were sent to two Polish gentlemen who were anxious to form a Theosophical library for interested people in Krakow. The engineer was of the opinion that a Theosophical movement could be started there soon.

In January and February 1957 we had the great pleasure of welcoming Mr. John Coats from England who gave interesting talks to our Lodges in Linz, Vienna, Bruck and Graz. In December, Mr. Zoltan von Algya-Pap, from Budapest, was welcomed to Vienna as a refugee. He delivered several very impressive talks about his experiences as a war-prisoner and Theosophist in Siberia.

Statistics.—As at 30th September 1957 there were 11 Lodges, with 299 members in the Section. The membership shows a decrease of 13, which seems to be due to the advancing age of many of the elder members and their failing health. As a result they often become inactive, a fact which cannot be balanced by the joining of young people suitable for lecturing or other Lodge work. There is, however, a steady interest on the part of young people in psychological and metaphysical problems.

FRITZ SCHLEIFER,

General Secretary.

NORWAY

At our annual meeting this year, I was elected General Secretary, as Mr. Havrevold did not stand for re-election.

Some response has been received to an appeal sent out for support to our magazine and although we are issuing five numbers instead of six this year, I hope that the members will feel satisfied.

Our statistics show that we have gained some new members.

At our constituting council meeting, after the annual meeting, we agreed to reserve one meeting every month for discussing articles from Theosophical magazines received from abroad, alternating with public lectures. To date we have had one magazine meeting and one public lecture on Reincarnation by Mrs. Ruth Wessel Nielsen. This lecture was of current interest because two of our weekly entertainment journals, *Allers Familie Journal* and *Alle Kvinners Blad* (All Women's Paper) have contained articles on Reincarnation. The former has published nine illustrated articles on Shanti Devi, and the latter about three articles by Joan Grant, the well-known novelist, in which she states her belief in Reincarnation. We welcome these articles as very good propaganda for Theosophy.

Further, I will give a public lecture on Old Norwegian Mythology (The Asa and Edda Songs) pointing out the identity between those teachings and Theosophical ones.

Mrs. Ruth Wessel Nielsen has organized a collection of old lectures, which are

intended to help all the Lodges which are in need of lectures and lecturers. We have already received orders from several Lodges.

At our last annual meeting two proposals were passed. One, sent in some years ago by myself, and this year through Mr. Birger Zadig, Oslo, makes all Lodge presidents, in and outside Oslo, official members of our Section council, thereby facilitating the contact between Oslo, the Centre, and the members or Lodges outside. Even if, in most cases, members from outside are able to be present at our Section council meetings in Oslo, they are receiving short notes about the meetings, giving them details of what we have decided, programmes, meetings with guests from abroad, and so on. Since the annual meeting we have put this proposal into effect and have found that it functions well, members from our Lodges outside Oslo having expressed their satisfaction.

The other proposal, sent in by Mrs. Louise Havrevold, which was also carried unanimously, prescribes that in the election of a General Secretary all members in good standing shall be entitled to vote, enabling them, on this important occasion, to have an opportunity of expressing their personal view. Previously only delegates at the annual meeting and non-attached members present could vote.

ERNST NIELSEN,
General Secretary.

EGYPT

No Report

DENMARK

The work of our Lodges varies; the usual method is lecturing but study groups, symposiums, and the reading of lectures or articles from Theosophical magazines are also used. Theosophical ideas are now—fortunately—spread in far wider circles than would be supposed from the number of members of the Society. It therefore seems very important to make people interested in Theosophical ideas, and able to understand the importance of a positive, creative, spiritual co-operation between members of the Society for the benefit of all mankind.

As in previous years, regular public lectures have been given at Aarhus and Copenhagen.

Even though the number of members has decreased during the year, other circumstances cause us to rejoice. The annual Convention at Copenhagen in May was very successful and was well attended. Mrs. Josephine Ransom and Mr. Otto Viking were present and gave much-appreciated lectures. A very harmonious and brotherly spirit prevailed throughout.

As in previous years, Summer Schools were held this year at Besantgaarden and at Gammel Praestegaard. The Summer

School at Gammel Praestegaard was held from 12th to 22nd July, and was attended by about 80 members from England, Germany, Holland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, South Africa and Denmark. The leader of the Summer School was Mrs. Ransom, who gave several lectures. Other speakers were Mr. A. von Fielitz-Coniar, Mr. Otto Viking, Mr. John Coats, Dr. Shila Ransom, Mr. Sigfried and Mrs. Ingrid Fjellander, Miss Entwistle, Mr. Jorgen Winde, Mrs. Birgitte and Mr. Hugo Valvanne, and Mr. Borge Sogaard.

The importance of the annual Summer Schools at Gammel Praestegaard and at Besantgaarden for the Theosophical work in Denmark has increased. The Summer Schools also serve as a link with Theosophists in other countries.

It is a handicap to the work of the Section that there is no common building or room in Copenhagen which can serve as a centre for the outer life of the organization in Denmark or, at any rate, in Copenhagen. At some future time we hope to be able to meet this need.

J. H. MÖLLER,
General Secretary.

IRELAND

My report starts with last year's Convention. Our keynote was "Towards Creative Living" and our guest speaker was the General Secretary of the English Section, Mrs. Lavender Berry. Mrs. Berry gave us a unique and alive presentation of Theosophy, coupled with a sympathetic understanding which made her meetings so vivid and vital.

During the year under review we have had the privilege of welcoming the

following visitors: Mrs. Adelaide Gardner from Camberley, Miss Clara Codd from South Africa, Mrs. G. Golder from Blackpool, Mrs. Walker from London, and Swami Avyaktananda. From Northern Ireland we have had Dr. Hugh Shearman. Other speakers during the year were: Rev. Savell Hicks, Mrs. Alice Law, Mrs. Hornidge, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. R. Duck, Mrs. F. Gourlay, Mrs. Allen, Miss D. Emerson. We have tried to

make our meetings as varied and interesting as possible, with public meetings weekly, members' meetings and a study group.

We are now the possessors of a tape recorder which has added greatly to our range of subjects and lecturers, and which is also of great value at members' meetings. One of our problems here is isolation; it is difficult to procure suitable lecturers, and although a tape recorder is not quite the same as a lecturer, it enables us to hear good speakers who otherwise would not be available to us.

On the lighter side we have had several evenings of a social nature, with music and color photography and a delightful evening of poetry and dramatic sessions by Meriel Thomas and Deidre O'Shea.

The attendance at public meetings of the Dublin Lodges has been good.

Cork Lodge carries on amidst difficulties, but has held members' meetings for study regularly.

The Dublin Lodges have held a monthly members' meeting for discussion and study, and have been greatly helped by recorded questions and answers which we have afterwards discussed among ourselves. The attendance at this group has been very good. Another study group meets twice monthly under Mr. Pielou's leadership. This has been most interesting and we think those who have attended have benefited greatly. We have lately started a meditation group which promises well and should be of help if the members continue to give their services regularly.

In the library, which now contains up to 1,740 books, Mrs. Gregg and her helpers have done good work. We are most grateful to Mr. Cyril Fagan who has given us a unique collection of books on Astrology and Theosophy. The library is open at all meetings and also for one afternoon

during the week with the librarian in attendance.

Our Christmas sale was as usual a great success, both socially and financially.

White Lotus Day was commemorated in the usual manner.

We have sent a cheque for £7 to the Refugee Fund, and also contributed to the various Adyar funds.

At the annual business meeting of the Dublin Lodges held on 30th January, I was nominated as General Secretary and Mr. Pielou as National Treasurer for the coming year.

Theosophy in Ireland, our national magazine, continues with three issues yearly. The expenses of this magazine are very heavy, three issues costing over £60. It is a heavy liability on such a small Section, but we feel it is worth while. Being somewhat isolated we are, by our magazine, kept in touch with the rest of the Theosophical world.

Our numbers are still small but remain fairly steady. During the year two members have passed on, and one transferred to the U.S.A. We have gained three new members. Although small in number we are an active group and I know good work is being done. I feel that members have begun to realize the importance of meeting together, and to know that if only public meetings are held the work of a Lodge becomes superficial.

In conclusion I want to thank those who have worked so hard, for the burden of work always tends to fall on the few, but we know that sacrifice and hard work are necessary if we are to spread the idea of Theosophy, and this aim will be fulfilled if we can make active within ourselves the spirit of the New Age which is the Spirit of Brotherhood.

EVELYN O. HORNIDGE,
General Secretary.

MEXICO

Conditions now prevalent in this Section are almost identical to those of the last two years. We number 26 Lodges, 8 Centres and 511 active members, 11 of whom have faithfully served the Society for more than 40 years. A decrease of 26 members is reported owing to the loss of three Lodges: two died shortly after birth; another became polluted and suffocated by "spiritism". Fortunately three new Lodges were founded almost simultaneously.

The reconstruction of our Headquarters building advances slowly but unceasingly. Having refused to mortgage our premises, in avoidance of future difficulties, funds are being collected from the admission of new shareholders and from donations.

Our 1956 annual Convention was held at Zitácuaro, Mich., 160 kilometers from Mexico City. The General Secretary was re-elected, thus entering upon his 22nd year of office.

As usual, the Section's main work during the year was the printing of propaganda material: 5,000 leaflets on Karma, 5,000 on The Theosophical Society, and 500 pamphlets for new members containing information about the Society, Theosophical teachings, the Society's Seal, Adyar, White Lotus and Founders Days, an address of welcome from the International President and a brief history of the Society. About 50,000 free copies of *Dharma*, a small bi-monthly magazine of Theosophical teachings, were distributed to more than eight thousand customary readers.

Aura Lodge printed a 450-page book *Igualdad* by Edward Bellamy, and the General Secretary compiled in book form

all the chapters from *The Lives of Orion* which had been published in our bulletin. From a new pocket edition of *At the Feet of the Master*, Bro. Abel Cárdenas Chavero presented the third part to this Section to be freely distributed among prisons, hospitals and other institutions.

Except for a short series of public lectures at Headquarters and Mérida, Yuc., no lecture tours were undertaken this year. Sister Luz Maria Durand delivered weekly lectures in Señor Buddha Lodge throughout the year, and young members of Unidad Lodge, led by Bro. José Martín Zamarrón, have obtained a free supply of documentary and artistic films to be exhibited after their weekly study meetings.

Some Theosophical Order of Service members of Luz de Occidente Lodge at Tijuana, B. C., led by Sister Maria de los Angeles Machorro, are active in Animal Welfare work. Visitors and a Los Angeles paper speak highly of their activities.

A donation of 1,000 Eucalyptus saplings was made by the Department of Agriculture to our small Theosophical colony at Teoloyucan, a place visited by our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, when he came here in 1951. Sister Prof. Aura Chagoya has continued her selfless work, imparting free primary education and Theosophical ideas to groups of rural children. She has arranged to have them examined and qualified at the next public official School.

The Mystic Star Ritual is performed on alternate Sundays at Headquarters.

ADOLFO DE LA PEÑA GIL,

General Secretary.

CANADA

During the year the work of the Society in this vast country has been one of steady progress and, whilst unspectacular, is gratifying in the unwavering one-pointedness of its efforts and aims.

In those areas where it is possible to stimulate further enthusiasm by personal contact there is a resurgence of effort, to others we send lecturers and other influences to vary the monotony of daily routine. It must not be forgotten that we are handicapped to a degree by the thousands of miles that separate our Lodges and that the enthusiasm and interest cannot be what it would be if we were closer together.

However, our far-flung Lodges maintain their study groups in an exemplary manner, and are helped by our magazine and postal information.

The eastern Lodges are fortunate in having quite a number of lecturers among the members, and these frequently visit each other, thus bringing fresh blood, as it were, to stimulate their efforts.

The Travelling Library situated in Toronto continues to do wonderful work in sending books to people in other cities and outlying places where literature is difficult to obtain.

The Animal Welfare Committee of the General Executive is very active. It is responsible for sending out pamphlets and maintaining interest in its efforts to assuage cruelty to animals and lately, to stop the cruelty to bush horses in the lumber camps. I am glad to say that

this latter evil has been fairly well taken care of. Other work regarding more humane methods of slaughter of animals for food is being dealt with and petitions are being sent to the Minister of Agriculture by all our Lodges. Thus humanitarian work marches alongside our spiritual efforts on behalf of humanity.

Our membership fluctuates but maintains a steady total. We have lost ten members by death and enrolled thirty-two new members. The total is less than last year, mainly caused by a strange migration of the Winnipeg members to places South of the Line, not so strange perhaps in view of the transitory conditions of the people who emigrate from Europe and make for that City of the Plains.

All in all, conditions are satisfactory, and I feel, as I have always felt, that this great country is in a state of flux—beset by growing pains—rather bewildered by the immensity of its natural resources and by the abundant wealth on all sides so that the spiritual aspect is somewhat obscured. But down beneath it all there is an ingrowing desire to express itself along loftier ideals and when this upward surge takes place, these teeming millions of varying races, religions and sects will look for the Truth and will find it, I feel assured, in Theosophy. With that idea in mind we are tilling the ground.

E. L. THOMSON,
General Secretary.

ARGENTINA

The membership of the Theosophical Society in Argentina on 30th September 1957 is 1,299 members (98 members less than last year). The number of Lodges is 60 (three more than in the previous year).

Under the direction of Mr. Nazareno E. Rimini, two new books have appeared in Spanish during the year: *Un Teosofista mira al Mundo*, (*A Theosophist Looks at the World*) by the International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram; and *Reencarnación y Karma*, (*Reincarnation and Karma*) by Dr. Annie Besant. The first was translated from English by a member of our Section, and the second is a reprint. During the year we sold 2,844 books, valued at \$12,276 in Argentine money.

Two Lodges, previously attached to the Headquarters at Adyar, have been reincorporated into the Theosophical Society in Argentina: Lodge Libertad at Tucumán and Urus in Bolivia.

In November 1956 we were very happy to have a visit from Mr. Juan Cruz Bustillo, former General Secretary of the Cuban Section, who was accompanied by his daughter, Hypatia. He visited only Buenos Aires but, taking the opportunity of his stay there, gave some members' talks and public lectures.

A small property called *El Rincón*, situated at the foot of the Cordoba Sierras, is now being put into a habitable condition by Theosophists in Cordoba and Buenos Aires. The proposal of the donor, Mr. Marcos Dal Prato, an un-

attached member of our Society, is that Theosophists might find there peaceful and tranquil surroundings in which to spend their vacations. Its present administrator, Mr. Leopoldo Zavala, has put into circulation \$100 bonds, each one reimbursable, and these loans will enable the necessary improvements to be made to the house. The Section and Mr. Dal Prato are also advancing money for this purpose. The effective collaboration which Mr. Felix Di Fresco is giving in the matter of repairing the building will enable this "Vacation Colony," as it is to be called, to be put into use by the end of this year.

Under the direction of an unattached member, Mr. Jorge Livraga, a magazine of good appearance called *Estudios Teosóficos* (Theosophical Studies) has appeared for sale in kiosks and bookshops. The first number, which appeared in August, contains an article by Mr. N. Sri Ram, "What is Theosophy?" and articles on astrology, esoteric medicine, occult tales, etc.

Because of the high cost of paper and printing, the official organ of our Section, *Teosofía en Argentina*, has for the past year appeared every three months. For the last few months, however, it has returned to an issue every two months, one of the benefits of the membership dues having been raised.

E. O. GOSSWEILER,

General Secretary.

CHILE

No Report

BRAZIL

Activities of the Theosophical Federations and Lodges.—It is with satisfaction that we record the magnificent work of the Federation of the Lodges of the Theosophical Society in Rio de Janeiro, under the competent presidency of our Brother Dr. Murilo de Azevedo.

A well-planned programme has awakened the interest of our members and sympathizers in the capital; it included a monthly screening of cinema films kindly lent by the Indian Embassy, showing historical, cultural, religious and artistic aspects of life among the peoples of India. These sessions have been much appreciated.

The Federation of the Theosophical Lodges in the State of Sao Paulo, under the presidency of Brother Gastao Sales, has dedicated its activities exclusively to financial problems, as it has the responsibility for payment of the debt incurred when the Headquarters was purchased, a responsibility onerous enough considering the size of the debt. Happily the Federation is not lacking the valiant co-operation of a number of sincere members, loyal to the Theosophical cause, so that in spite of the difficulties encountered, all goes well according to pre-established plans.

As to the work of the Lodges, this is maintained more or less at the same level as in earlier years. Some of them have obtained satisfactory results in the increase of new members, and some have presented carefully planned programmes arranged in such a manner as to awaken and maintain the interest of the members and to enable them to solve their own difficulties through a better understanding of their problems and guide them to activities that are more spiritual. Other Lodges in the meanwhile have not been so efficient. They have accustomed themselves to routine work, stagnation

being prejudicial to their improvement. They need to overcome that situation by making a special effort. I have advised the Lodges in which such conditions prevail to establish correspondence with the Propaganda Department of the National Section and with other members more experienced, seeking suggestions for their work. The addresses of all the Lodges are printed on the cover of the magazine *O Teosofista*.

Theosophical Publications.—In accordance with the understanding we have come to with the Theosophical Publishing House at Adyar and the printers, Empresa Editora O Pensamento, we shall publish shortly a number of Theosophical books translated into Portuguese. The publication of these books is good news for the Theosophists in our country. We know the important role that good books play in the education of men and we can say with assurance that the lack of Theosophical books in Portuguese has been the main hindrance to the development of the Theosophical Society in our country. It is true that already a great effort has been made in this direction, which enabled us to publish various books, but they have not been sufficient to meet our needs. We believe that in the near future we shall have solved this big problem.

O Teosofista.—The bi-monthly publication of this review has been carried on regularly, to the perfect satisfaction of the subscribers, due to the careful selection of articles published. Some organizations and libraries that receive copies of it, by way of propaganda, hasten to request a copy if it has for some reason not reached them. Our thanks are due once more to our printers, As Industrias Graficas Padilla S. A., who, publishing the magazine for us free of charge, allowed us to balance the budget.

Propaganda Department.—In the period January to September 1957 this department devoted its efforts to the spread of Theosophy by means of articles published in the press of our capital, thereby provoking the interest of many people who wrote seeking enlightenment and others to join the ranks of some Lodge in the capital.

It has also distributed propaganda material to the Lodges in this country, as well as to spiritualistic organizations and people. It is promoting the spread of Theosophical literature, importing books and distributing them in this capital and Rio de Janeiro. It has organized a good supply of propaganda material, composed of colored photographs and pictures from our great Theosophical works, to put in public places, which has aroused great interest.

As to our plans for the future, these include the possibility of increasing our propaganda through the press, on radio programmes, and in reviving the work where Lodges have gone out of existence or are dormant. It is also hoped to start a basic course in Theosophy in Rio de Janeiro, and this material will be written down and distributed throughout the whole of Brazil.

Membership.—We are sorry to report that Lodge Arjuna has become dormant. We hope that the members belonging to this Lodge may regain their interest and take up their activities which are so much needed.

We have not yet received the annual returns from six of our Theosophical Lodges, and this fact prevents our presenting our statistics accurately. In respect of these Lodges, we have made our calculations on the returns sent in 1955. On this basis there has been an increase of 2 in the number of members, the present total membership being 979.

Thanks Rendered.—It is with the greatest satisfaction that I here record grateful thanks to the members of our Joint Executive and our General Council for the inestimable services they have rendered to the National Section. We would have been unable to carry out our work without this co-operation of these dedicated members. We send our good wishes that in the future our links may be made closer and that we may become more identified with the noble ideals of our Society, and that with such brotherly sentiments of love and sympathy we may feel the satisfaction of duty accomplished.

ARMANDO SALES,
General Secretary.

BULGARIA

No Report

ICELAND

There are now 386 members in the Theosophical Society in Iceland, 19 more than last year. There are only 165,000

inhabitants in Iceland, so 2-3 per thousand of them are members. Besides this there are a great number who are interested and

who sympathize with the work and teaching of the Society. There are eleven Lodges, four of them in Reykjavik. Septima Lodge in Reykjavik is largest (about 120 members); the oldest Lodge is Reykjavik Lodge, founded 17th November 1912.

Public lectures were given at the headquarters in Reykjavik with special regard to introducing Theosophy to non-members. *Gangleri*, the Section magazine, appears twice a year. It has been decided to hold a "Theosophical Week" this year with Mr. John Coats from London as a lecturer.

We had two study groups this year: The Black Rose which dealt with general Theosophy and spiritual training, under the guidance of our Honorary President, Mr. Gretar Fells; and a study group led by the General Secretary which dealt with the evolution of the solar system and the occult history of mankind. Our Summer School, with Mr. Edwin C. Bolt from Cambridge as our teacher, was attended by about 40 people.

The Lodges worked much as usual, having public lectures and meetings for members. Sometimes films are shown and usually there is some kind of musical presentation.

The Order of Service has worked in the same way as in past years, supplying

funds for some of our activities and doing much humanitarian work, especially for children.

Our library has been put into better order and is now more easily available. The number of books has increased this year. We are specially thankful for a gift of books from Mr. Boris de Zirkoff of Los Angeles whom I met on my journey through U.S.A. last spring.

On the 30th December last we had a meeting of about 100 people to honor Mr. Gretar Fells on his 60th birthday. He had been our General Secretary for 21 years and an active lecturer and worker for longer still, and is now our Honorary President. The strong position of Theosophy in Iceland is due to his enormous work and its rare quality. His numerous lectures, extensive work and many talks on the State Radio have made him well known throughout the country. All his work and teaching has been characterized by deep spirituality and rich inner understanding.

The annual Convention was held on 29th and 30th September. I had the honor of being re-elected General Secretary.

SIGVALDI HJÁLMARSSON,

General Secretary.

SPAIN

No Report

PORTUGAL

During this period of activities from December 1956 to September 1957, the Lodges of Lisbon continued their normal

work, except Sao Paulo Lodge, which was temporarily dissolved by the Directive Council; in the provinces, we have

pleasure to announce the creation of another Lodge, Boa Vontade, Evora, which began its activities with enthusiasm.

We have this year celebrated the great Theosophical festivals, Adyar Day, White Lotus Day, and so on. We continued holding meetings every fortnight, using symposiums and lectures, to increase the knowledge of comparative religion, literature and philosophy. Some lectures given were on the very interesting subjects of "Ego and Personality," "Ancient Mysteries," "Unseen Helpers," "Psychic Powers," "The Four Great Religions of Humanity—Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Christianity".

The Choral Group of our Section, directed by Sister Elvira de Freitas Nobre Santos, has added much to several of these meetings.

Dr. Délio Nobre Santos, Vice-President of the Section, has regularly conducted a course in Theosophy, attended by many members.

Miss Pascaline Mallet visited us and her assistance in our work was very much appreciated by all members.

The life of our Section goes on with some financial difficulties, resolved, happily, by the good-will of devoted members.

FÉLIX BERMUDEZ,
General Secretary.

WALES

Membership.—During the last year 12 new members were enrolled and 2 were transferred to Wales from other Sections. Our losses were heavy—4 resigned, 5 died, 8 lapsed and 1 was transferred. We gained 14 and lost 18. Our total membership on September 30th was 182 as compared with 186 last year, a decrease of 4.

Lodges.—There is little fresh to report about the Lodges. The work in the small Lodges is still handicapped by lack of leadership. We need an active travelling officer who can spend time in areas where growth would be possible.

The two larger Lodges, Cardiff and Colwyn Bay, continue to do good work with full programmes of public lectures and members' meetings. Cardiff has organized several successful study weekends.

Personal difficulties, such as ill health, have militated against progress during the year in Swansea, Pontypridd and Newport.

In North Wales it is hoped to revive the Rhyl Lodge which returned its Charter after the War, and in Criccieth, Caernarvonshire, a very good Centre with 7 members may soon develop into a Lodge.

Publicity.—The problem of adequate publicity seems to be a serious one in the British Isles. We have no assistance from our Broadcasting Corporation (as is possible in some countries). Interesting discussions on subjects which often appear on radio programmes never include Theosophists, who could make helpful contributions. The Regional Committee for the British Isles and Ireland has discussed this matter, but as the B.B.C. takes a very rigid view, little change can be expected. It seems, however, that something should be done to bring about a change in their attitude.

The press, also, rarely gives support, though much money is spent by us on advertisements of lectures. There seems to be so little understanding of what

Theosophy is and what the aims of the Society are.

There is urgent need for a magazine designed for the *public*. Our magazines are meant mainly for members; but efforts are being made to get *The Theosophist* accepted in the public libraries in some towns. "Straight Theosophy" needs to be explained to the ordinary man in a simpler form. The American leaflet *Discovery* is an effort in this direction which is meeting with success.

Audiences everywhere in these islands are disappointing in their numbers. The day of lectures seems to have passed owing to television and radio, and few are keen enough in winter months to leave their firesides. We realize, alas, that the fault lies mainly in ourselves. We need the deepening of Lodge life. Only a few members seem to realize their *responsibility* as members of the Theosophical Society.

Our *Annual Convention* was held in May in Colwyn Bay with Mrs. A. L. Berry as guest speaker. The unity and happiness of the gathering were outstanding.

Miss Clara Codd visited Wales at the beginning of October. It was a great joy to have her with us again. Public lectures and members' meetings in North and South Wales were well attended in spite of an influenza epidemic. We were all grateful for the privilege of meeting Miss Codd, and the inspiration engendered

by her will long be remembered. She celebrated her 81st birthday while with us.

The Theosophical Order of Service.—Members continue to give active help to the U.N. Association, Animal Welfare movements and aid for Refugees. In Cardiff they have helped to revive the Anti-Vivisection League.

The National Council met 4 times during the year.

The triennial election of General Secretary and National Treasurer by postal ballot will take place in March 1958.

We were not able to send a representative this year to the meetings of the European Council at Huizen.

The General Secretary attended the Convention of the Theosophical Society in England at Whitsuntide and the meeting of the British Isles and Ireland Regional Committee at Camberley. She also attended the English Summer School at High Leigh.

Headquarters Building.—We now have a resident member in charge of the building. This is most helpful. A necessary improvement in the heating of the building has been completed at an installation cost of approximately £180.

Some anxiety is being felt as to the effect of the heavy increase in rates which may result from the new Rating and Valuation Act which covers England and Wales.

E. CLAUDIA OWEN,
General Secretary.

POLAND

No Report

URUGUAY

On the 28th September 1957, the Uruguayan Section made a change in the five members of the Council who are elected every three years and who, with the Presidents of the Lodges during their respective terms, constitute the Council. The changes are as follows:

General Secretary: Anibal Lissardy.

Vice-General Secretary: Sra. Esmeralda

N. de Laguarda.

Councillors: Pedro Sprinberg, Sra. Julia de la Gamma, Mario Mendez.

There are 7 Lodges in Uruguay, with a total membership of 84. We have great hopes for the work in the coming year.

MARIO RADAELLI,

General Secretary.

PUERTO RICO

During the year two new members joined, one re-entered and one passed away, bringing the total membership to 92 at 30th September 1957.

The passing of our beloved member, Dr. P. H. Hernandez, President of Blavatsky Lodge, Utuado, has been a sad loss for our Section. He was a very devoted leader of one of the oldest Lodges in Puerto Rico.

As usual we have carried on all our programmes. The Section journal, *Heraldo Teosofico*, continues its route all over Mexico, Central and South America. The radio talks go on the air every Sunday morning at 9.30 a.m., conducted efficiently by Brother J. Gonzalez Quinones.

Dr. Eduardo Alfonso continues his conferences on the History of the Religions, Brothers Gonzalez Quinones and Eladio Lopez continue their classes on Friday evenings and Brother A. J. Plard, our former General Secretary, directs the studies for members on Tuesday evenings. On Sunday mornings we hold a public meeting in which all members take part.

We held our Convention on Easter Day, 8th April, with a good representa-

tion of members of all the Lodges, missing among them our dear Dr. Hernandez, as he and his group were always the first ones to arrive, and always brought so much happiness and optimism. We had a nice gathering and as usual served a vegetarian lunch at noon. During this recess we had the opportunity of greeting our members who do not have the facilities of coming to visit us more often.

Some of our leader members have had severe trials this year, which have forced them to be away from their work in the Lodges for some time; luckily we have devoted members who carried on the most important part of the work.

We have celebrated all festivals including United Nations Day on 24th October.

We live with the hopes that our devotion and perseverance in the work will bring the results desired in the near future and that Theosophy will be spread and lived by many more in the years to come.

May the Masters give us strength to carry on till the end of our journey.

ESPERANZA C. HOPGOOD,

General Secretary.

RUMANIA

No Report

YUGOSLAVIA

No Report

CEYLON

The annual Convention of our Section was held on 3rd and 4th November 1956. We were disappointed that Mr. M. Subramaniam was unable to come, however Dr. R. Tuli, Chief of W.H.O. in Ceylon, helped us out at short notice. He gave the public address on 3rd November, taking for his subject "Truth—the Religion of God".

On Sunday, 4th November, at Sri Palee, there was a symposium on "Theosophy in the State; in the Art of Living; in the Home; and in Medicine". Interesting contributions were made by Brothers F. H. P. Joseph, Ben J. Thiedeman, Mrs. Amy Thiedeman, and Dr. W. L. Mendis.

After the close of Convention, the pupils of Sri Palee, by courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Ariyaratne, gave a bright and varied display of Oriental dancing and a programme of vocal and instrumental music.

A conference of non-Governmental Organizations from Burma, Ceylon, India, Nepal and Pakistan, arranged last year by the U.N. Information Centre, New Delhi, was held in Colombo from 29th October to 1st November. It was attended by representatives of the Section. Lectures were given by visiting and local speakers on a variety of subjects, including "The Role of the U.N. in World Affairs Today" by Senator Ed. J. Corray, and "Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy" by Dr. Jagdish Shankar. On the last day of the conference, the assembly divided itself into groups, which discussed public understanding of the U.N. through press, publications, radio, exhibitions and

other media, and framed a number of resolutions which the plenary body adopted for transmission to the U.N.O.

At the beginning of 1957, Mr. J. Krishnamurti spent a month in Colombo. He gave four lectures and held six discussion meetings. Some of our members attended these meetings.

White Lotus Day was observed in Colombo and other Lodges; an article specially contributed by Dr. W. L. Mendis was sent to the Lodges on that occasion.

We had the pleasure during the year of a month's visit by Mrs. E. Marion Lavender who had just completed nearly three years of lecturing in Australia and New Zealand.

For the three Colombo Lodges, Mrs. Lavender gave—in a week of intensive work—an outline of the Glyphs of the Stanzas from *The Secret Doctrine*, the Tattvas, and of the Ascent of Man. These lectures were followed by a series of talks to members. The Glyphs of the Stanzas and the Tattvas formed a presentation which the Ceylon Section has had for the first time; and a closely-knit group of Colombo members was highly appreciative of the opportunity for gleanings some cognition of that field.

In the short time available for the outlying Lodges, Mrs. Lavender could cover only a few general subjects at Lotus Lodge in Veyangoda, and at Vasanta in Sri Palee, Horana.

There has been sustained work in the Lodges, although we regret that hardly any active work has been reported from three outlying centres. Stimulation

through fresh and periodically renewed contacts from Section Headquarters is being planned for the coming year.

A noteworthy development comes from Shanti Lodge, in Galle, which conducts its work in Sinhalese; it has achieved the distinction of translating into that language parts of some of our literature and of carrying out its study with the help of such translations. We are especially grateful to Shanti Lodge for giving a lead in this direction through the initiative of our Brother A. P. Sugathadasa who is mainly responsible for this achievement.

Among our overseas visitors during the past year were Bishop C. D. Shores, Miss Tjioe Siang Nio, Mme. G. Courtial

and Mlle. G. Chardennot, Mr. Albert H. Brown and Mr. P. C. Harper.

Viewing the work of the year, we may note with some satisfaction—at the close of the fifth year of the revived activity of the Section, and the third anniversary of its re-constitution—that the nucleus of Brotherhood is gradually growing among the members of our Lodges. Though not yet fanned into the pure and radiant flame characterizing some of our sister Sections, there is an underlying promise in the small core at work in each of our Lodges, which should hearten us for the future.

N. K. CHOKSY,
General Secretary

GREECE

During the period under review, Mr K. Melissaropoulos, owing to many other preoccupations, expressed the wish to retire from the position of General Secretary of our Section. The Executive Committee therefore unanimously elected Mr. Timos Vratsanos, past Secretary of the Section, as General Secretary. Mr. Melissaropoulos continues to offer his services as a member of our council.

The number of the Lodges of our Section is now eleven after the revival of Lodge Blavatsky-Olcott and the formation of two new Lodges, Dimocritos in Athens and Orfeus at Komotini (Macedony). There are 247 members, this being the highest number since the establishment of the Greek Section.

All the Lodges worked regularly during the year ended 30th September 1957. We have endeavoured to re-establish in Corfu the Ionian Lodge, the first formed in Greece, about 1879.

Several thousand copies of a fifth revised edition of the booklet *Theosophy*

and the *Theosophical Society* have been issued for free distribution to anyone who is interested in the Society.

The harmonious co-operation of the members has continued undisturbed. Our original aspiration continues to be the formation of a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity and freedom of thought in this native land of democracy. Our particular endeavour is the admission of new members and the renewal of all the earlier members of our Section, so that the work in Greece may be more intensive for the spreading of Theosophical ideals.

During this year the publication of our magazine *Ilissos* continued with increasing success. Although it is not presented officially as an organ of our Section, it is addressed to a large number of readers (at present 800 subscribers, of whom 200 are members of our Section), and endeavors to spread the ideals of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity and the occult philosophy generally. This

magazine is edited by Mr. K. Melissaropoulos.

Theosophical Deltion, an 8-page magazine containing Theosophical news and short Theosophical articles, is also sent to all members of our Section.

During this year the Greek library was enriched with the book *Karma* by Annie Besant, translated by the undersigned. The lending library of the Section continued to be in regular operation, with an increased number of readers.

Many members of our Society, particularly ladies, continued to be occupied with the social work of the Committee of Refugee Welfare of Kolokyntou Camp, aided by the different National Sections of the Society in Europe and America. Our endeavour is to decrease the number of refugees by their restoration in private work with satisfactory results.

TIMOS VRATSANOS,

General Secretary.

CENTRAL AMERICA

No Report

PARAGUAY

No Report

PERU

No Report

THE PHILIPPINES

Our Local Theosophical Field, though naturally sharing with the International Society the prevailing world-wide influences, favorable as well as unfavorable to the work, has its own peculiar conditions which it is worthwhile considering in the orientation of our efforts in carrying out the declared Objects of the Society.

Ours is a young Island Republic in its formative years, but with a long past of Oriental influences which emanated from the old religions and cultures of India

and China. This had become overlaid and practically forgotten by almost four centuries of association with Spain and her Latin culture and Roman Catholicism. Hence, our present predominantly Catholic population over whom the domination of the Roman Catholic Church is being pressed by the Ecclesiastical Hierarchy through the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Action and other lay organizations, invading not only the religious and educational, but also the political field.

It is fortunate that with the influx of more liberal influences with the coming of the United States of America more than half a century ago, the growing power of the Church is now being counteracted in some measure by the firm, if silent, opposition of the Masonic Fraternity, the Federation of Christian Churches and others, with the support of hosts of liberal-minded citizens from all walks of life. It is in the midst of the cross-currents of these conflicting factors that our Theosophical work lies, and by the life that our members live and the doctrine they propagate, we hope the idea of Universal Brotherhood will characterize the growth of our young Republic and the life of its people.

Our Activities during the first quarter of this period (1st October 1956—30th September 1957) temporarily slowed down due to certain misgivings which arose among the group of active workers caused by supposed missteps and shortcomings of one or two of the leaders. The Section, however, proved its stability when the transfer of administration was smoothly effected through democratic processes during the December Convention. Considering the long proven devotion to the work of those concerned, and the sense of brotherliness of all, it is expected that the differences will soon heal and all shoulders will again unitedly be put to the wheel.

Upon the installation, on 16th January 1957, of the new Board of Trustees, composed of the new officers of the Section, the fruitful work of their predecessors during the last five years was resumed with new vigour. The general membership responded enthusiastically to an appeal for active co-operation and pledges of material support were made by many.

The special programmes regularly held every year, such as Easter, White Lotus Day, and others, were well attended. We

were happy to receive the cabled greetings of President N. Sri Ram during our Easter gathering.

A series of public lectures given by several of our members proved not only successful but also a discovery that we have ample material for this purpose.

Our Lodges (sixteen in number) being mostly distributed around Manila and its suburbs, with two or three in the provinces, the monthly inter-Lodge gatherings at the National Headquarters have become a regular feature of our activities. The Sunday public lectures and open forums continue, although more attention is now given to the Lodges, which are the proper channels of light and brotherly love outpoured for the helping of the world.

Three new Lodges were formed during this period, namely: Balintawak Lodge and Logia Teosofica Rizaliana, in Quezon City, and Singalong Lodge, in Manila.

Our General Membership continues as usual to be fluidic, but remains fairly constant at around 200 members, with an almost permanent nucleus of active dependable workers. We are now considering ways and means to extend the work to the provinces in the far flung islands.

Our National Headquarters, a modest building on a lot donated by the family of one of our members, and erected with bank money in 1947, badly needs reconstruction, which we hope to undertake after we have paid the balance of our indebtedness, unless a donor comes to our aid. The small contributions of our members are barely enough to meet the instalments and other expenses of the Section.

Our National Library of a few hundred books, partly purchased with contributions of the members and partly donated by our American brothers, has served the members and the public for many years,

but the books now need replenishment as many are falling apart from long use.

Our Young Theosophists, of whom we are blessed with a good number, are reviving their movement, and some of the mature ones are now the backbone of the Section work, holding such positions as Executive Assistants, Programme Director, Director of Studies, and others indispensable to the work of the Board of Trustees.

In concluding this report, the undersigned, who served for 5 years as President of the Section from 1946-1950, wishes to

take this opportunity to thank every one of his brothers and sisters for their co-operation before and during this year, and to advise that in view of his other work indirectly related to the Theosophical Society and his failing eyesight, he is unable to stand as candidate for any office in the coming yearly elections, and would suggest that the opportunity to serve the Section as its President be given to younger members.

DOMINGO C. ARGENTE,
General Secretary.

COLOMBIA

The incoming membership this year is about the same as the previous year, but unfortunately is slightly overbalanced by the outgoing, so we have a decrease of 5 members. There are 14 Lodges in Colombia, with a total membership of 135.

I am glad to report that the work in the Lodges has been perhaps more enthusiastic than usual. The attendance has been regular and the members show interest in the studies which have been conducted methodically.

With great pleasure we report the formation of a new Lodge in Bogotá, with the name of Spinoza. The Lodge has been organized through the work of Brother Miguel Angel Median, but because he has to be absent from the city he has left the task of instructing the new group to Brother Ramon Martinez.

Lodge Ecos de Oriente, founded in the city of Manizales some years ago, has now transferred to Bogotá, due to the fact that the greater number of the members reside in that city. Lodge Blavatsky in Bogotá has revived its activities, which had been suspended owing to the

illness of Sister Sofia Parz in whose house the meetings used to take place. With these Lodges we have now five active Lodges in the city of Bogotá. They work in different districts and on different days, and so offer greater opportunities of interchange of studies for the members who reside there.

During this year we continued the publication of our *Coleccion Teosofica*, which are 32-page pamphlets of Spanish translations. One thousand copies of each of the following three pamphlets, intended mostly for free distribution, were published:

No. 15—*The Spiritual Significance of Motherhood*, by Geoffrey Hodson.

No. 16—*The Search for Happiness and The Destiny of Man*, two lectures delivered by Mr. N. Sri Ram, International President, during his visit to Colombia.

No. 17—*The World in Transition and The Responsibility of each Member of the Theosophical Society*, by Mr. N. Sri Ram.

We are now distributing No. 18 of this series containing two lectures by Dr. Annie Besant which up to the present

have not been published in Spanish, on two of the themes which have always interested thinking people: God and Man. Owing to the length of these two lectures, we have had to increase the number of pages of the pamphlet from 32 to 48.

We also published 4,000 copies of a 16-page booklet for free distribution, giving information about the work and

aims of the Theosophical Society and the requirements for becoming a member.

Great interest has been taken in our Lodges to stress the advice of our International President to live the Theosophical life and improve the quality of the membership, even if the quantity remains stationary.

CORINA MARTÍNEZ S.,
General Secretary.

EAST AFRICA

The past twelve-month period has been happily filled with various activities designed to disseminate the Divine Wisdom in its different aspects in this vast Section of the globe and to arouse and maintain the enthusiasm of members in the study and practice of Theosophy as a way of life.

When the Section was first started in 1947, there were only seven Lodges under its jurisdiction, but within such a short period as ten years, there are now 21 Lodges with a total membership of 758. But there is still a vast field of unexplored activities for the spread of the Ancient Wisdom amongst the masses, and from the present trend and enthusiasm of the members, we feel sure that with a spread of education, the Section will be able to quench the thirst of the indigenous population of the continent.

The Lodges meet regularly and the Society's special festivals were commemorated befitting the occasions. There is real brotherhood amongst members, each of whom tries to emulate the high principles of the Society both within and without the Lodges.

The seventh annual Convention of the Section was held in the city of Nairobi, the capital of Kenya Colony, under the

auspices of the Nairobi Lodge, from 23rd to 25th December 1956 with the National President as chairman. Miss Clara M. Codd attended as a guest of honor and delivered several public lectures and talks to members.

Another visitor to the Section was Mrs. Mary G. Patterson who, on her way to Adyar from South Africa, spent a few days at Nairobi and delivered four public lectures and gave several talks to the members. An arrangement was also made by the Nairobi Lodge for her visit to Mombasa, Kisumu, Kericho and Eldoret Lodges where she met members and gave talks on Theosophical subjects. An entertainment was arranged at the Youth Lodge meeting in Nairobi in her honor.

The important feature of the year was the increased activities of the Nairobi Lodge which published its monthly programme and regularly maintained it throughout the year under the guidance of Brother Ramanlal Shah.

The Highland Lodge, Eldoret, began publication of its one-page monthly bulletin *Beacon* for the information of its members, and the Lodge hopes to publish it in larger form in the near future. This Lodge also ordered a set of Correspondence Courses from the Australian Section

and one of its members, Brother Saint, used them as a basis of study for the new members.

Study Classes.—During the last Easter holidays, a group of members of the Nairobi Lodge travelled to Mombasa to attend the study classes organized by the Mombasa Lodge. The National President opened the session. The classes were held at the Lodge premises in beautiful surroundings; the subject chosen was "Man and His Bodies". Brother Ramanlal Shah of Nairobi took a leading part in the classes and Brother H. S. Patel, President of the Mombasa Lodge, also spoke and thanked the members of the Nairobi Lodge for the trouble they had taken to attend the classes.

Visits.—As National President I made several visits to the Lodges, which gave an impetus to the members in general and to the officers of the Lodges in particular.

Our National Secretary, Brother Kanga, accompanied Miss Codd on her tour to East African Lodges and was a great help to her in organizing and arranging the

programme. He also attended many Lodges in India during his holidays there and his visit to Adyar made a profound impression on his mind, which he explained to the members of the East African Lodges when he stressed the importance of the Adyar Headquarters and its management.

The National Vice-President, Brother D. O. Acharya, visited the Morogoro Lodge and Brother H. D. Shah visited Nairobi, Mombasa, Morogoro, and Zanzibar, while Brother J. D. Shah visited Nairobi and Tanganyika Lodges, all these visits being greatly appreciated.

Next Convention.—At the request of the Narayan Lodge, Dar-es-Salaam (Tanganyika Territory), the next annual Convention of the Section will be held at Dar-es-Salaam during Easter.

Obituary.—With great regret we have to record the untimely passing away of Brother K. G. Mehta, Joint Secretary of the Tanga Lodge, at a very young age.

V. H. KAPADIA,
General Secretary.

PAKISTAN

No Report

MALAYA AND SINGAPORE

The formation of a Federation of Theosophists for Malaya and Singapore was both timely and significant inasmuch as it anticipated the Independence of Malaya (31st August 1957) which is now a separate member of the British Commonwealth of Nations and also a full-fledged member of the United Nations.

There are three Lodges—Penang with about 45-50 members in a population of 300,000; Kuala Lumpur with about 18-20 members in a population of about 1,000,000; Singapore with about 50 members in a population of over one million; and it is hoped that Seremban Lodge will be revived in the not too distant future; while efforts are being made to form a

study circle in Malacca. Alor Star (60 miles from Penang) which is the capital of Kedah, has a potential group, under the leadership of Dr. Cheah Toon Lok.

Malaya (about 6½ million people) consists of a plural society with different religious affiliations, 45% Muslim Malays, 40% Buddhist and Christian Chinese, and 15% Indians, Ceylonese, Europeans, Indonesians, etc.; Singapore has 80% Chinese and 20% other races, thus forming a compact experiment in brotherhood of races somehow placed together for the integration of national aspirations. It can be realized, therefore, what a great part Theosophy can be expected to play in the scheme of things in a newly independent nation where the idea of unity needs to be emphasized for the sake of communal peace and harmony, where brotherhood can be practised in spite of natural inborn differences of interests, emotional urges and racial outlook.

It is very gratifying to be able to report that in Malaya, as a result of the activities of Penang and Kuala Lumpur Lodges, Theosophy is now helping people to think in terms of brotherhood, religious unity and spiritual evolution.

Members of the various Lodges are helping public organizations such as Red Cross, Rotary, Moral Rearmament Association, World Brotherhood, Buddhist Associations, and Ramakrishna orphanages.

Penang Lodge is encouraging the appreciation of Theosophical Lodges as common platforms for all religious and philosophical discussions; and in both Singapore and Kuala Lumpur the Lodges have been very active of late in conducting study classes, public lectures, and courses of instruction in public speaking for members.

C. H. YEANG,
Organizing Secretary.

NORTHERN IRELAND

A good year's work has been done by an active and united group of members. Visiting speakers included Mrs. A. Gardner, Mrs. E. Hornidge and Miss Clara Codd who was the guest speaker at our annual Convention in May 1957. Belfast Lodge has carried on a regular programme of three meetings each week with extra study meetings devoted twice a month to *The Secret Doctrine*. The Lodge has acquired a tape recorder and this is also being used in the two other Lodges. Coleraine Lodge met regularly and, at the close of the year under review, Bangor Lodge resumed public work after an inactive period.

Membership has been falling for some years. It was 79 in 1950 and is now 64. This is due to a low intake of new members which may be attributed perhaps partly to the fact that our Belfast headquarters is no longer at the centre of the city and partly to those social and other tendencies which are adversely affecting membership throughout the British Isles generally. The core of our membership is sound and of reasonably low average age.

HUGH SHEARMAN,
Organizing Secretary.

VIET-NAM

The Executive Council elected in 1955 has ended its second year of service. A misunderstanding occurred in the Council at the beginning of 1957 which affected the activities of the Society for a time. The Executive Council has now been partially re-formed, with the inclusion of new volunteers eager to smooth out the difficulties and overcome the troubles for the good working of the Great Plan. It is devoting itself to the immediate task of:

1. Reorganization of the administration of the Section;
2. Strengthening the ties of fraternity among the members;
3. Encouraging the activities of the Lodges;
4. Organizing an intensive campaign to spread the teachings of Theosophy.

The Council, which is composed of active members of good-will, has great hopes of giving a magnificent lift to the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam.

Membership.—It has to be noted that at the present time a number of members have lost their link with the Society, the principal cause of which is discontent. It therefore follows that their interest in the Society's activities has gone, but that they rest, so to say, expectant. We hope that the good-will of the Council will bring about reconciliation. The registered members number 305; this year we have had 76 new members. In accordance with our national rules, 127 members who have not paid their dues for more than a year lost their membership. These members will be re-admitted to the Society in Viet-Nam as soon as they fulfil their obligations.

The Lodges.—At the present time we have 11 Lodges, 7 of them since the formation of the Section in 1952, and 4 new Lodges during the years 1955 and 1956.

The most active of the Lodges are: Lodge Saigon, Lodge Phung-Su, Lodge Chon Ly, Lodge Leadbeater, Lodge Duoi Chon Thay, Lodge An Giang, Lodge Kiem Ai. Lodges Vac-Ai, Long-Zuyen, Nhon-Ai and Viet-Nam are not very active, due to lack of organization or of co-ordination.

Propaganda—Our official organ of the Vietnamese Section, the review *Dao-Hoc*, had its authorization withdrawn by the Government in July 1957. It committed the mistake of not appearing at the fixed, stipulated date according to the laws in force.

A committee for propaganda and the diffusion of Theosophical teachings is being formed under the presidentship of Madame Nguyen-thi-Hai. It envisages the publication of a Theosophical review which will be free to members, the organization of public lectures, and the translation of basic books on Theosophy. With the co-operation of all, the Presidents of Lodges and members of good-will, this committee hopes to be able to spread Theosophy in an effective manner among the members and among a more numerous public.

As a means of diffusion we have a review, *Tim Hieu Thong Thien Hoc* (For the Understanding of Theosophy). This is an organ which, although not officially that of the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam, has been a means of propaganda for the Theosophical movement and its teachings for the past four years. About 6,000 copies of each issue are circulated widely to all classes of society, and chiefly to Government officials. We have been gratified to receive from the Minister of Information in Viet-Nam a letter of felicitation and approbation. Thanks to this review, directed by M. and Mme. Nguyen-van-Huan, many people have become acquainted with

Theosophy and have joined the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam.

With regard to Theosophical books, during the year we have published Vol. II of *Dao-ly Thuc-Hanh* (Practical Theosophy) written by M. Pham-Ngoc-Da, with an issue of 2,000 copies for free distribution. Parallel to this book, M. and Mme. Nguyen-van-Huan have published a large volume on Theosophy entitled *Vo-Tru Va Con Nguoi* (The Universe and Man); this book is taken from Theosophical works such as *The Secret Doctrine*, *A Study in Consciousness*, *The Occult Evolution of Humanity*, *The Solar System*, *The Causal Body*. The book *The Phach Con Nguoi* (The Etheric Double), taken from the weekly lectures organized by Lodge Saigon, is in the press.

The Library of the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam comprises about 700 volumes and continues to lend free to members and sympathizers Theosophical books in both the French and the Vietnamese languages. We should very much like to have gifts of works in English, for the intellectual elite of this country are beginning to familiarize themselves with this language and prefer to study Theosophy in the original publications.

Social Work.—The Orphanage of the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam con-

tinues its social work under the supervision of its Director, Dr. Cao Van Tri. The 33 places reserved for young orphans are always occupied. This Orphanage is able to subsist thanks to the help of the Government, of the Red Cross in Viet-Nam, and gifts from members.

The World Theosophical Convention.—At the 81st Convention of the Theosophical Society held at Adyar in December 1956 there were three delegates from Viet-Nam: M. and Mme. Nguon Har and M. Nguyen-Huu-Kiet.

General Outlook.—Thanks to the wealth of lectures and courses on Theosophy given by Lodge Saigon and by the letters of the readers of the review *Tim Hieu Tjong Thien Hoc*, we have been able to keep the public interested in the teachings of Theosophy. The publication of the book *Vo Tru Va Con Nguoi* has also produced a response in favor of Theosophy.

Conclusion.—As we look towards the future, we cannot but be confident and optimistic. Viet-Nam is good ground for sowing the seed of Theosophical teachings. May we merit always the benediction of the Elder Brothers.

PHAM-NGOC-DA,
General Secretary.

ISRAEL

The "ingathering of the exiles," the world-encircling immigration scheme inaugurated by the State of Israel for the benefit of hundreds of thousands of its people, displaced or otherwise, with a view to enable them to finally return to their ancient homeland after a karmic pilgrimage of nearly two millennia, necessitated on our part, too, a special effort in order to find amongst the multitudes

of newcomers those of our members and friends who were not yet aware of the existence of a Presidential Agency of our Society in this country. Advertisements to that effect in our polyglot local press—Hebrew, English, German, Polish and Hungarian—were repeatedly successful and assisted in raising our membership to 40, an increase of 7 (6 admissions and 1 transfer) in the year under review.

Regular meetings were held in Covenant Lodge, Tel-Aviv, and Moriah Lodge, Jerusalem; public lectures were delivered by Mr. Hans Zeuger, the Presidential Agent, in Tel-Aviv once a month, these being usually very well attended by members as well as visitors. In addition, Mr. Zeuger spoke on various occasions during the summer recess in the home of Mrs. Margot Klausner where a circle of students interested in parapsychological research meets weekly.

On 17th June 1957 a new Lodge, Harmony, was formed in Tel-Aviv, bringing the total number of Lodges in Israel to 4.

White Lotus Day was celebrated in the usual manner in a very peaceful atmosphere particularly enhanced by the presence of Mr. and Mrs. C. Perz from Germany, both of whom had been instru-

mental in organizing our first Lodge in Israel, Galilea, at Safad.

In order to reach our members and friends hailing from so many different countries in one of the languages familiar to them, we compiled our news bulletin *Theosophie in Israel* in German, English, French and Hebrew, an experiment which proved to be very successful from its inception.

Contact with the Centre in Huizen was maintained and strengthened by the re-appointment of Mr. Hans Zeuger as Link-Officer for Israel, and many brotherly connections were formed by correspondence with heads and members of our Sections the world over.

HANS ZEUGER,
Presidential Agent.

JAPAN

No Report

VENEZUELA

I have the honor to render to you the annual Report for the fourth year of Theosophical activity in this Section. From 1st October 1956 to 30th September 1957, the following activities have been undertaken:

New Members.—During the year 16 new members joined, two transferred from Uruguay to Venezuela and one member transferred to the American Section. There are 9 Lodges in Venezuela, with a total membership of 132.

Lodges.—The Lodges have held their usual meetings, including Lodge Evolution at Barquisimeto,

Review.—We have begun the publication of a review, *Unidad*, as an organ of publicity for our Theosophical ideals, which will appear every second month and is intended for free distribution.

Service.—Various activities are being undertaken. Lately we have been attending the Institute for the Blind once a fortnight, giving short talks of a Theosophical nature, which have been much appreciated.

Elections.—On the 6th October 1957 the elections took place for the new term 1957-1959, both for the General Secretary and for the Executive Council, Señor Pablo

Bonilla T. having been re-elected as General Secretary.

Future.—The Executive looks forward with full confidence to the future development of the Theosophical Society in

Venezuela, and we feel sure that the seed sown has fallen on good ground.

PABLO BONILLA T.,
General Secretary.

WEST AFRICA

General.—During the year the work has progressed steadily. There were no public lectures but a regular flow of enquiries continued to come in. Enquiries redirected to us from the English Section and Adyar were followed up and literature was supplied to the applicants.

Membership.—Out of 52 enquirers, 38 have enrolled. Two members from the Kensington Lodge in London have also joined us, bringing our membership to 165 (an increase of 36). Most of our members are isolated, but they are frequently linked up through correspondence and distribution of *Theosophical News and Notes* subscribed to in bulk from the English Section.

Lodges and Centres.—No new Lodges and Centres were formed but the existing ones (4 Lodges and 5 Centres) have con-

tinued to be active. Two new Study Groups formed at Zaria and Jos in Nigeria have shown a rapid increase in membership and are well under way to graduating into Centres. At Accra the moribund members' meeting has been revived and regular meetings are held on Sunday mornings at a member's house.

The Annual Convention came off successfully and was well attended. Our Nigerian members have not yet had the privilege of attending Conventions, but some of them have expressed the wish to do so in future.

The Summer School coincided with a local Motor Union strike and therefore had to be postponed.

K. BRAKATU ATEKO,
Organizing Secretary.

CANADIAN FEDERATION

No Report

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

The beautiful Congress at Baden, a well-known watering place near Vienna, presided over by our President, has been of great influence, as Congresses usually are, on our European work and brought inspiration to many members.

The Regional Committee meetings in 1957 were held in Basel and Brussels respectively for the German and French-speaking Sections, while the British and Irish Regional Committee met at Camberley. The value of these annual

Committee meetings, always at the same place, cannot easily be over-estimated. Besides a growing personal contact of officials and useful business discussions, they gradually develop into small international gatherings and become a source of inspiration for the work in the Sections.

In Basel, where we had a very lively discussion group, the German General Secretary, Mr. Martin Boyken, gave the public lecture. In Brussels the public lecture was taken by Madame Claire Wyss (Switzerland) while Mr. G. Tripet (Switzerland) and Mr. F. Brunel (France) addressed the members' meeting.

It is gratifying to see the Sectional Summer Schools increasing in number. This year Summer Schools were held in Sweden, Finland, Denmark and England. The Dutch Section's Summer School was held in conjunction with its Silver Jubilee, and the German Summer School was organized as usual at Rendsburg, the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe being the guest of honor.

Amongst the international lecturers I would like to mention Mrs. Josephine Ransom's visit to Scandinavia, Mlle. Pascaline Mallet's stay in Portugal and Prof. A. M. Haas, who lectured in Finland and Sweden, while Mr. John Coats has been visiting several Sections. As General Secretary, besides paying a visit to Camberley, I presided over the Regional Committee meetings, both in Basel and in Brussels, and attended the German Summer School at Rendsburg. I also paid a visit to France visiting Lyon, Marseilles, Cannes, Nice and Monte Carlo, to contact a group of French members who separated from the French Section and formed the "Centre d'Etudes Théosophiques," an autonomous, independent organization of their own.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the Editors of our periodicals: Mrs. Adelaide

Gardner (*Theosophy in Action*), Mlle. Pascaline Mallet with the assistance of Mr. Th. Chapellier and Mr. George Tripet (*Clarté*—French). The German periodical (*Adyar*) is now in the able hands of Mr. E. Rösch. We want to thank Dr. N. Lauppert, who had to resign from the Editorship owing to other work, most heartily for the fine work he has been doing during a great many years and under difficult circumstances.

There is a good and lively contact with the Young Theosophists in Europe, who show much activity under their General Secretary, Mr. Rob van Vloten. Their periodical *Enthousiasme* is well edited and has articles in various languages. It is now subsidized by the European Council. The Young Theosophists and their friends held their own camp in August in the Belgian Ardennes where my wife and I had the pleasure of spending one day with them at Mirwart. It was a most successful gathering of young people. Mr. Phan-Chon-Ton was elected General Secretary to succeed Mr. Rob van Vloten.

The work of the Round Table is growing and it is interesting to see their meetings more and more on the programmes of Conventions and Summer Schools. The Round Table Camps held at Huizen and Camberley were well attended and happy.

This year the German-speaking Summer School was again held at Pichl-Ennstal, Austria. Madame Fanny Scheffmacher presided and it proved to be an excellent gathering. The French-speaking Summer School met at Louette St. Pierre, Belgian Ardennes. Originally planned at Uriage in France, much to our regret this plan had to be given up, owing to insufficient accommodation. The themes were respectively "From self-reliance to a sense of responsibility" and "The responsibility of a Theosophist". The General Secretary opened the

Regional Summer School at Louette and presided over the Regional Committee, after which he returned to Holland to meet the President, who first spent a few days at Valkenswaard in Mr. and Mrs. van Dissel's new home near Eindhoven, and further paid a short and private visit to Huizen, before returning to India via Paris.

The European Council presided over by the General Secretary was held in August at Huizen during the International Centre Week. Eight Sections were officially represented, 6 by their General Secretaries. Members from 16 countries including U.S.A., South Africa and Viet-Nam attended the meetings.

As new General Secretaries we welcome in our midst Mr. Ernst Nielsen, Norway; Mr. Timos Vratsanos, Greece; Mr. Sigvaldi Hjálmarsson, Iceland, while thanking at the same time their predecessors for the work done during their time of office. Mr. Nielsen has held this office before.

The increased amount of work to be done yearly puts an additional demand on our finances, more than we can afford to spend. Consequently this is the cause of many anxieties for both the Treasurer and myself.

With the entering of a new Cycle, new problems constantly come up. In this connection it may be useful for Sections—as their contribution to the European

work as a whole—to study and discuss these problems amongst themselves and to give them a greater place in their own periodicals. We should never forget that the Theosophical Society and its members have a mission to fulfil in connection with the unification of Europe. It is for us to find out what the mission is and how we can each play an active part in present world conditions, individually and collectively. There is a great truth in the words of Dr. Arundale: "If you stay where you are, you lose even that which you have, because it becomes atrophied and therefore useless".

Since many years a gradual change can be observed within our European work. It is the moving away from the idea of a European Federation of National Sections, towards a greater Unit, which is the real "Theosophical Society in Europe," as its official name has been ever since its foundation in 1903 and in which all European Sections are fully integrated on a basis of equality. This growing into greater unity—not a uniformity which has quite a different meaning—is a slow process. This growth from within is there and is a fact to be taken into account. I wonder, however, whether this is already sufficiently realized.

J. E. VAN DISSEL,

General Secretary.

THE WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

The annual Meeting of the Federation was held at Adyar during the 81st International Convention in December 1956. Srimati Rukmini Devi presided; Srimati G. Sundari and Srimati S. Sankari were elected General Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Those elected to the Exe-

cutive Committee were Miss Shirley Macpherson, Mr. S. Ravi, Srimati S. Vasantha and Srimati S. Visalakshi. Srimati S. Sankari was put in charge of the Youth Headquarters Building.

An interesting symposium on "Theosophy and Community Welfare" was

held during the Convention, with several young people from different places participating in it.

Work in the Past Year.—The correspondence between the Youth Headquarters and the different Federations has not been continuous; the Secretary supplied information when it was needed urgently. Some Federations fail to inform the Headquarters when there are changes of office-bearers or addresses.

Annual reports from Australia, New Zealand and the United States have been received. Those from Europe and the South American countries are still awaited.

Summary of the Reports from the Different Federations.

Australia.—The President of this Federation, Mr. W. G. Hill, writes that the Lodges at Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney are all active and meet regularly. Their activities consist of Theosophical study, group discussions, presentation of plays, holding musical evenings, entertaining needy children, arranging surprise programmes and holding camps. The size of their quarterly magazine *Fraternity* has been reduced, but sales are still being maintained. The Australian Federation has been corresponding regularly with Youth groups throughout the world.

New Zealand.—Miss Isobel Mason writes that due to the efforts of Miss Sandra Chase, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in New Zealand, interest in Youth activities has increased. The New Zealand Federation of Young Theosophists was formed at Easter this year. There are Youth groups in Auckland, Christchurch and Whangarei. The New Zealand Youth Federation has brought out the first issue of its magazine which is edited by Miss Isobel Mason and contains interesting articles.

United States.—Mr. Richard Brooks, President of the Young Theosophists in America, writes that the annual Convention was held in July at the Youth Circle at the Headquarters of the Theosophical Society in America. The President sends out a monthly letter to all Young Theosophists with a view to uniting the groups of Young Theosophists in America more closely. These letters offer suggestions for study, programmes, and organization of the work. Several groups around the country have presented panel discussions to Lodges of the Society, organized bazaars to raise money, held periodic picnics and parties. The President has been lecturing in various parts of the country.

Indonesia.—No official report has been received from this Federation but Mr. Ananda Suyono, their representative who is at Adyar, has given us information about the Young Theosophists activities. There are approximately 250 members in the 10 Youth groups situated mainly in the various parts of the central island of Java. The Indonesian Young Theosophists are engaged in Theosophical study, organizing dramatic activities, Scout work, performing the Ritual of the Mystic Star, participating in the activities of spiritual movements, such as the Upasika organization, the Divine Life Society, and others. Their magazine in the Indonesian language, *Dhyana*, is popular. The Young Theosophists print the Section journal at Semarang.

Pakistan.—We hope that the Rukmini Devi Youth Lodge, Karachi, will become active in the coming year since they can now meet in the Jamshed Nusserwanji building.

India.—Though I have not received any official information from the General Secretary, I learn from the President,

Mr. Peter Hoffman, that he has been informed by Sri V. Gopalan, General Secretary, that in pursuance of the decision taken in December 1956, the All India Federation of Young Theosophists stands dissolved from 1st October 1957. This is a great pity, but I hope that the Youth Lodges will join the local Federations of the Indian Section and carry on Youth activities within its folds.

We extend our grateful thanks to Sri-mati Rukmini Devi for her encouragement and guidance, to Sri-mati S. Sankari, our efficient Treasurer, who has been taking care of the Youth Headquarters building at Adyar, and Sri Narayanji Kevat for kindly auditing the Statement of Accounts.

G. SUNDARI,
General Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 20

OFFICERS

1956-1957

Executive Committee:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| (1) THE PRESIDENT | } | <i>Ex-officio</i> |
| (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT | | |
| (3) THE RECORDING SECRETARY | | |
| (4) THE TREASURER | | |
| (5) MRS. RADHA S. BURNIER | | |
| (6) MISS ANN KERR | | |
| (7) MR. N. A. NAGANATHAN | | |
| (8) MR. K. S. RAJAGOPALAN | | |
| (9) SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI | | |
| (10) MR. S. G. VENKATARAMANAN | | |

Adyar Library: DIRECTOR: MISS ANN KERR.

Archives: MISS KATHERINE A. BEECHEY.

Bhojanasala: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

Dispensary: MEDICAL OFFICER: DR. E. SUNDARESAN.

Engineering Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. M. D. SUBRAMANIAM.

Garden Department: ADVISER: MR. N. YAGNESVARA SASTRY.

Laundry: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. M. V. GOPALAKRISHNA IYER.

Leadbeater Chambers: SUPERINTENDENT: MISS FLORENCE PULSFORD.

Legal Adviser: MR. N. K. CHOKSY, Q.C.

Post Office: SUB-POSTMASTER: MR. V. SRINIVASAN.

Sanitation and Hygiene Officer: MADAME P. CAZIN.

School of the Wisdom: PRINCIPAL: MR. N. SRI RAM; DIRECTOR OF STUDIES:

MISS EMMA HUNT.

The Theosophical Publishing House: MANAGER: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

The Vasanta Press: MANAGER: MR. M. SUBRAMANIAM.

Watch and Ward Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1956-57

The previous year having brought us to the completion of the reclassification of all the printed books, in this year of report (1956-57) we have been concentrating on the cataloguing of manuscripts and re-numbering them for a more efficient shelf arrangement, and on putting through the press the new publication, the *Lakṣmī-tantra*, and the revised edition of the *Saṅgītaratnākara*, Vol. II.

Staff.—Mrs. Mary G. Patterson, after more than one and a half years of efficient service as Librarian, was transferred from the Library to the School of the Wisdom; Mr. Voyle V. Stewart, who had given half-time general assistance for one year and five months, returned to U.S.A.; Sri G. Subramaniam, office clerk, resigned to take up work in another city. In the Oriental Section, as there was not sufficient work for three copyists, Sri Nigamanthachar and Sri Ramamurthi were relieved of their work. Miss Shirley Macpherson, of Australia, gave temporary service for several months in 1957, carrying out the duties of Librarian. To each of these former members of the staff we express our appreciation for their services.

Dr. Sreekrishna Sarma, who has studied Sāhitya and Advaita Vedānta in the traditional way and has a Doctorate from Marburg University, Germany, was appointed to the staff in October 1956; Srimati Seetha Neelakantan, for many years an Adyar resident and on the staff of the Besant Theosophical School, joined the Library staff in July 1957; Mr. Charles Hunter, of Northern Ireland, replaced Mr. Stewart in March 1957, as an honor-

ary worker, and Mr. P. M. Advani joined the staff as general assistant in July 1957.

Dr. K. Kunjunni Raja, Mrs. R. Burnier and Mr. E. Fernandez Orfila continued to give part-time service.

MSS. Catalogues.—Pandit V. Krishnamacharya, assisted by Pandit Ramachandra Sarma, has been engaged in preparing the Descriptive Catalogues of Manuscripts. The section on Prayoga, Vrata and Śānti, prepared last year by Pandit Ramachandra Sarma, has yet to be scrutinized by Pandit V. Krishnamacharya. A catalogue of the Śrauta and Gṛhya manuscripts has been completed and work on the Dharma Śāstra manuscripts is proceeding. Dr. Sreekrishna Sarma is preparing for the press a catalogue of the collection of approximately 1,200 manuscripts which came from Visvabharati, Santiniketan, some years ago.

MSS. Shelving.—The manuscripts have for a long time had insufficient space and the shelf number system used for them proved to be inadequate and inconvenient. During this year, all the palm-leaf manuscripts have been rearranged on the shelves according to their serial numbers, and the Visvabharati collection has been brought together and put in a separate room. These new arrangements have resulted in additional space on the shelves and consequent easier access to the manuscripts. The paper manuscripts are also being renumbered and rearranged. Pandit T. R. Venkatarama Sarma is doing this work.

Book Catalogue.—In continuation of the reclassification of books, the new

card catalogue is being checked before making it available to the readers. Srimati A. P. Siitaa Devii is doing this work. The cataloguing of the books received from the library of detective stories in the previous year has been completed during this year of report.

Publications.—The major part of the *Lakṣmītantra* and the new edition of Vol. II of the *Saṅgītaratnākara* have been printed. It is expected that these books will be ready for distribution within a few months. Preparations have been started for sending to the press *The Epistemology of Śrī Madhva*.

Bulletin.—A special issue of *Brahma-vidyā*, the Adyar Library Bulletin, was published in commemoration of the Buddha Jayanti. This illustrated volume, containing articles contributed by a number of well-known Buddhist scholars in various countries, and including eight plates, has received several expressions of appreciation, among them one from a former Director of the Library, Dr. Otto F. Schrader. We are indebted to Dr. V. Raghavan to whom the Buddha Jayanti issue owes its existence.

The number of subscribers to the Bulletin is 84, and exchanges with other journals number 85.

Exchanges.—A new exchange of publications has been entered into with the Istituto Italiano per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente, Rome. A former exchange with the Oriental Institute, Baroda, which lapsed some years ago, has now been revived. We have already received a number of valuable publications from the two Institutes. New exchanges of journals have been entered into with the Indological Institute of the University of Vienna, and the Royal Asiatic Society of Ceylon. We have this year terminated exchange arrangements of some journals which have proved to be of no interest or value to our readers and scholars.

Copying.—Eleven manuscripts have been copied and one microfilm made, on order from other institutions. (The microfilming is done locally but not in the Library.) Twenty-two old and rare manuscripts in the Library were copied for its own use.

Accession.—3 palm-leaf manuscripts, and 151 paper manuscripts, including the 22 transcripts made in the Library, were accessed during the year; also 1,907 books including the detective story library mentioned in the previous report.

Repair and Binding.—366 books and 158 manuscripts have been repaired and bound.

Mr. E. F. Orfila continues to supervise the repair of manuscripts. He has been experimenting with a new process of lacquering the palm-leaf manuscripts which, when fully developed, will make the manuscripts insect proof, flexible, easy to handle and also more legible than when repaired with silk as has been done previously. The lacquering process is also much quicker than the silk.

Borrowers and Readers.—On 30th September 1957 the Library Membership totalled 230 of which 112 are Readers, 116 Borrowers, and 2 Braille Section Borrowers. 7,545 books and 3,523 manuscripts have been consulted, and 2,014 books and 15 manuscripts have been lent. As in the past, the Library continues its service to scholars and other research institutions.

Gifts.—We are grateful to Their Holinesses the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama who, during their visit to the Library, presented three Tibetan xylographs and for an anonymous gift of three Rāmāyaṇa manuscripts. The Library has continued to receive the much appreciated publications of the Bollingen Foundation. Other gifts included a library of 75 Braille books received from the Margaret Dudley Braille Lodge, England, and several

Braille volumes from the Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, U.S.A., and 229 books received from the library of the late Dr. J. H. Cousins.

The Sanskrit Commission.—On 2nd February 1957, the Library was visited by the Sanskrit Commission appointed by the Government of India to enquire into the present status of Sanskrit studies in the country and to suggest ways and means to improve it. The members of the Commission present on the occasion were Dr. S. K. Chatterji (Chairman), Dr. S. K. De, Dr. R. N. Dandekar (Secretary), Dr. V. Raghavan and Dr. T. R. V. Murthi. The Director and staff of the Library explained the work being carried on and the future programme.

Visitors.—Among the visitors to the Library during the year were the Librarian, University of Ceylon; Dr. Helmuth von Glasenapp, University of Tübingen; Professor Giuseppe Tucci and Raniero Gnoli from the Istituto Italiano per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente, Rome; Sri K. Balakrishna Panikkar, Sri N. R. Kurup and Sri S. Neelakanta Sastry of the Sanskrit College, Trivandrum; Mr. A. J. John, late Governor of Madras; Dr. J. W. de Jong, University of Leyden; Professor Walter Ruben, Humboldt University; Their Holinesses the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama; Lord and Lady Attlee; the members of the Sanskrit Commission; Dr. David Friedman, School of Oriental and African Studies, London University; Dr. Walter Liebenthal, Visvabharati University, Santiniketan; Mrs. Ellsworth Bunker, wife of the U.S. Ambassador to India; and H. H. the Governor of Mysore. Dr. H. Kimura of Japan, Dr. George T. Artola and Dr. Arthur Nethercot, both of U.S.A., availed themselves of the facilities of the Library during their stay in Madras.

Needs.—For many years the annual reports of the Library have called atten-

tion to the need for an adequate building. The need has now become acute. Plans for a suitable building have been drawn up and land for the building is available. It is only the lack of funds that holds up the project. A new building is essential for the following reasons:

1. The Library is now housed in rooms given for its use by the Theosophical Society in the Headquarters Building. Only a small portion of the space now used was constructed for the Library. The Headquarters Building is used for various activities of the Society which restrict the work of the Library.

2. The rooms used by the Library are unconnected, therefore the Library work is divided into two separate sections, an arrangement which causes administrative problems and wasted labour.

3. There is no space for work rooms and no place where our staff of pandits can be uninterrupted and quiet. Except for the office of the Librarian, all the work is done in rooms where the books are stacked. This crowded condition is not only disturbing and inefficient, but it makes it very difficult to safeguard the books.

4. Air-conditioned stack rooms and manuscript rooms are highly desirable as it is only by regulating temperature and humidity that deterioration of the precious manuscripts and books can be avoided in the climate of South India.

5. Before the Library became so crowded, many visitors from India and abroad used to come to see the Library. But the number of visitors to the estate having grown to very large proportions and all of the space within the Library being in use, it has become necessary to close the Library to casual visitors, even though some come from distances. In a new building a display room and museum could be kept open to the public thus

creating more interest and good-will towards our work.

6. Expansion in the present premises is impossible as the maximum available space is already being used by the Library.

7. Private working rooms and additional facilities needed by the research workers who use the Library can be provided only in a new building.

8. A microfilming department and a suitable lecture hall are now very much needed and can be provided only in a new building.

In addition to the building, the Library is in great need of funds for the publication of the Descriptive Catalogues of its manuscripts. In founding the Library, Colonel H. S. Olcott visualized it as becoming a great centre of research in Oriental learning and a centre from which would be published such of the manuscripts as would make a contribution towards world culture and create a link between the learned of the East and the West. As a basis for all other work envisaged by the Founder in 1886, it is essential for the Library to have detailed catalogues of the manuscripts, many of which are rare works. These catalogues will be of use to all scholars and institutions interested in Oriental studies. The first volume of the Descriptive Catalogue

was published in 1908 and only six additional volumes have appeared since then. There are still nine more volumes for which funds must be found.

We once again appeal for donations to carry on the work of the Adyar Library in its many departments: Preservation and Maintenance, Research and Publications, Purchase of Manuscripts and Books, Building Fund, Endowment Fund.

It is a matter of deep regret that Dr. G. Srinivasa Murthi, Director of the Adyar Library from 1934 to 1953, and since then one of our Advisers, has been seriously ill for over a year. We send to him our affectionate thoughts and good wishes, as well as our gratitude.

I take this opportunity to express once more our grateful appreciation to our Adviser, Dr. V. Raghavan, for the keen interest he takes in the Adyar Library and its work, for his continued helpfulness given so graciously out of his very full programme of activity in the fields of Sanskrit scholarship, Education and Art. I want also to thank all others who have assisted in the work of the Library through contributions of service, books and manuscripts and money.

ANN KERR,

Director.

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

REPORT FOR 1956-57

The eighth session of the School of the Wisdom was opened in Blavatsky Bungalow on 2nd October 1956, by the Principal, Mr. N. Sri Ram. In his address to the students, Mr. Sri Ram outlined briefly the beginnings of the School and its predecessor, Brahma Vidya Ashrama, giving definitions of this latter term and of "Wisdom". He expressed the hope that the students might have a happy time while at Adyar and that the principles of the Ancient Wisdom to be studied in the various meetings and discussions of the group be related to life so that they might be a means of understanding life and what are our true relationships with others within the Brotherhood of all things. Following the opening talk, tea was served to the twenty-seven guests, residents and members of the Theosophical Society, who had assembled for the occasion.

During the two terms of the session, the registered student-body comprised eighteen members from nine countries, represented as follows: America 3, Australia 2, England 1, France 4, India 4, Northern Ireland 1, Malaya 1, Pakistan 1, Viet-Nam 1.

The faculty consisted of Mr. N. Sri Ram, Principal; Miss Emma Hunt, Director of Studies; Mrs. Mary G. Patterson, Secretary and Assistant to the Director of Studies; Mr. M. Subramaniam, Lecturer. Contributions to the daily programmes on various subjects were given by a number of guest speakers, including Srimati Rukmini Devi Arundale, Kalakshetra; Miss Katherine Beechey, Adyar; Prof.

Bohkari, Presidency College, Madras; Mlle. Serge Brisy, Kalakshetra; Mrs. Radha S. Burnier, Adyar; Miss Ann Kerr, Adyar; Dr. K. Kunjunni Raja, University of Madras; Mr. Edwin N. Lord, Adyar; Prof. T. M. P. Mahadevan, University of Madras; Mr. Rohit Mehta, Banaras; Mr. and Mrs. E. Norman Pearson, Adyar; Srimati Adeltha Sita Devi, Adyar; Mr. S. G. Venkataramanan, Adyar; Mr. N. Yagnesvara Sastry, Adyar. To all of these sincere thanks is given.

The morning studies during the first term, ending on 7th December, included the basic principles of Theosophy, beginning with the Absolute and the Unmanifest, and proceeding through the manifest creation; the work of the Third and Second Logoi; cosmic ideation; monads, their nature and the seven rays; the mineral, vegetable and animal kingdoms; the birth of the ego and the seven principles of man; reincarnation; man and his bodies; karma in its various aspects; the law of unity, evolution and sacrifice; the various planes of nature and the solar system; the cyclic law in relation to races and civilizations and the evolution of racial consciousness; present world conditions and future trends; yoga, its meaning and its six systems; yoga for the West; mind training and meditation; the Occult Hierarchy; the nature of the Path, preparatory qualifications and initiation; the nature of the Adept; and a detailed study of *The Voice of the Silence*.

The School, during its December holidays, had the advantage of being able to attend the annual Convention

of the Theosophical Society, which this year was held at Adyar. Many of the students took part in the activities of Convention, assisting in various ways and participating in Convention symposia and art programmes. Others had assumed regular or occasional duties contributing to the community life at Adyar.

In the second term, beginning 7th January 1957, the emphasis was laid on religion, philosophy, science and the arts. Religions studied were Hinduism; Zen Buddhism; Sufism; Christianity, Exoteric and Esoteric; and Islam. There were also general studies on The Nature of the Soul in Religions, and The Fundamentals of Religion. Philosophy included Western philosophy; psychology; and education, modern, Theosophical, and in relation to the new Race child. Scientific study was limited to Genetics. There were general studies on Art, and specific studies of the arts of India: dance, literature and sculpture. The small Theosophical "classics" were next taken up, such as *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Voice of the Silence*, *Light on the Path*, *Bhagavad Gita*, and *The Crest Jewel of Wisdom*. The latter part of the second term was devoted to studies related to the Theosophical Society; its history, its constitution, its three Objects, its future, Adyar, and the work of the Recording Secretary.

In connection with the study of education and Indian arts, two mornings were given to visiting Besant Cultural Centre to view the activities of Kalakshetra and the Besant Theosophical High School and Montessori School. The students and Secretary made one extended trip to Mahabalipuram, Tirukkalikundram and Conjeeveram in the interest of furthering their knowledge of Indian arts and culture.

Afternoon classes were devoted to a speakers' course; discussions on Theosophical Lodge problems; a study of man

relating Theosophical teachings with those of modern psychology; visits to many departments of the Theosophical Society's Headquarters, and to places of interest in and near Madras.

During October and November of 1956, the School sponsored a series of six public lectures which were given on Friday evenings in the Headquarters Hall. Early in 1957, four additional evening lectures were arranged, three of which were illustrated with lantern slides. Speakers on these occasions included some from abroad, and from Madras, as well as residents of Adyar.

A small portion of the library of the School of the Wisdom, now permanently housed in Adyar Library, and comprising some 1,700 volumes, was moved to the School's quarters for ready reference and accessibility to the students. From this selection, 90 loans were made during the two terms. In addition, most of the students made use of the larger collection of the School's library at Adyar Library, as well as the facilities of Adyar Library itself. Grateful acknowledgment is made to the Director of Adyar Library for the assistance and co-operation given in this respect.

On the closing day of the eighth session of the School, 8th March 1957, the Principal, Mr. N. Sri Ram, presided and gave a short talk to the students and guests assembled and awarded Diplomas to the students who had remained throughout the two terms of the session. Before the School was formally declared closed, Mr. M. Subramaniam and Mrs. Mary G. Patterson gave brief addresses. In the absence of the Director of Studies, Mrs. Patterson expressed thanks to all who had assisted in making the School year successful. A social hour followed at which refreshments were served to the guests and faculty by the students.

The students were agreed that the 1956-1957 session of the School had proved both valuable and enjoyable to them; that they had increased their understanding of Theosophy and deepened their realization of the natural laws underlying the universe, and had grown in their mutual tolerance for the diversities of expression of the One Life. They had demonstrated for themselves that the basic principles of the Ancient Wisdom such as the unity of all life, the nature of the "indivisible Man," the changeless law

of change, and the significance of the present moment—the "eternal now"—could be applied in practical life, in all departments of daily activities, and need not remain as merely theoretical concepts. Moreover, it was felt that each had gained by learning how to search for Truth; in the words of our President-Founder, how "to examine all things, test all things, and hold fast to that which is good."

MARY G. PATTERSON,
Secretary.

MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION, ETC.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled "An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860," that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



(Sd.) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

Station, Madras,
Dated 3rd April 1905.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

*In the matter of Act XXI of 1860 of the Acts of the Viceroy
and Governor-General of India in Council, being
an Act for the registration of literary,
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are:

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follows:

GENERAL COUNCIL

Ex-Officio

President-Founder:—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

Vice-President:—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

Recording Secretary:—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

Treasurer:—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, N.Z.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

Additional

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author, [for 2 years].

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded the Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of "President-Founder," and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth

in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration

or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than

Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ...
 „ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ..
 „ PYARE LAL ..
 „ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ..

three-fifths of the members of the Society present personally or by proxy at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this ... day of March 1905.

{ (Sd.) H. S. OLCOTT
 „ W. A. ENGLISH
 „ SUBRAMANIAM
 „ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE
 „ UPENDRANATH BASU
 „ ANNIE BESANT
 „ N. D. KHANDALVALA

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED "THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY," ADYAR, MADRAS

1. The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. Not less than seven members of this Council shall be residents of India.

2. (a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not less than 5 and not more than 10 Additional Members, among

whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of The Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society and excepting the General

Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not less than five members.

4. The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of The Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

5. At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

Note: Meetings include Adjourned Meetings.

6. The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of The Society shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and

shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. The term of office of the President shall be seven years.

10. Six months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Recording Secretary shall call for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council, each of whom shall be entitled to make not more than three nominations. Such call to members outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air and ordinary mails. Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary shall consult with the respective National Governing Council and shall make his nominations on its behalf. Nominations of any member or members in good standing, whose consent as laid down hereunder shall be necessary for the validity of the nomination, shall be sent to the Recording Secretary, so as to reach him within two months of the date of the call for nominations.

At the expiration of this period the Recording Secretary shall place all the nominations received along with the relevant papers before the Executive Committee at a meeting specially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. All nominations for which the consent of the nominated member has not been filed in the office of the Recording Secretary within the period of two months just preceding shall be rejected as invalid. The rest shall be counted, and the names of those receiving the three highest numbers of nominations, (or any lesser number

of names, if less than three are nominated) together with any others who have been nominated by not less than half the members of the General Council, but after eliminating any who in the meantime have died or who have withdrawn their consent to nomination and subject only to the provisions of the next following paragraph, shall be those to be voted upon. In the event of the death or withdrawal of any one of the three receiving the highest number of nominations the name of the next on the list receiving the highest number of nominations shall be substituted. The list made by the Executive Committee shall not be subject to challenge.

The Recording Secretary shall immediately in writing communicate all the names on the list to each nominee thereon (if the nominee is not at Adyar the communication shall be by telegraph or cable). In the event of any death or withdrawal the corresponding name shall be struck from the list.

On the tenth day following the meeting of the Executive Committee for the examination of nominations, the Recording Secretary shall communicate the list of nominees remaining to be voted upon, to the General Secretaries, and to Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar. Such communications to the General Secretaries outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air mail and ordinary mail, and to the others by air mail confirmed within two days by ordinary mail. Each General Secretary shall take the individual vote of each of the voter-members of his Section, that is, of members of the National Society on his rolls who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Section, and shall communicate the result to the Recording Secretary, who shall himself take the votes of the Lodges and

Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar, who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of The Society at Adyar.

If only one member is nominated, the vote so taken shall be on a "For" or "Against" ballot.

At the expiration of six months from the call for nominations by the Recording Secretary, the results of the voting shall be counted by him. The Executive Committee shall appoint two of its members as scrutineers. The nominee receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected to the office of President.

If the voting results in the highest number of votes being given equally to two or more of the nominees, or if the voting upon the "For" or "Against" ballot results in the rejection of the one member receiving nomination, or if the death of any nominee occurs before the counting of the votes and the declaration of the result, the nomination and election procedure herein provided shall be repeated and the President then in office or the Vice-President, if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President is elected.

11. (a) The President shall nominate the Vice-President, subject to confirmation by the General Council, and his term of Office shall continue till a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of The Society until a

new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. In case of death, resignation or permanent disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold Office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. The President shall appoint the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and such subordinate officials as he may find necessary, which appointments shall be reported to the Executive Committee at its next following meeting, and shall continue to be valid unless rejected by a majority of votes of the whole number of members in the Executive Committee, voting in person or by proxy, at the said meeting, the newly appointed Treasurer or Recording Secretary not being present, nor counting as a member of the Executive Committee for purposes of such vote.

13. The Treasurer, Recording Secretary and subordinate officials being assistants to the President in his capacity as executive officer of the General Council, the President shall have the authority to remove any appointee of his own to such offices.

14. The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members. Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-optation.

15. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other

business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not less than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of The Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of The Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of The Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Recording Secretary, the receipt of either of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the State Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following, the President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and one other person appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.

21. (a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of The Society beyond India, at any time and from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of The Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of The Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of The Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property movable, or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any Company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to sub-delegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and releases, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

(b) The funds of The Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public securities, or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages on such property.

(c) The Adyar Estate of The Society in Madras including The Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members,

voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of The Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21 (c).

22. (a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to The Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of The Society with the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of The Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Note: The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21 (a).

23. The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. The Recording Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of The Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Recording Secretary.

25. On the death or resignation of the President, the Recording Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election

of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

HEADQUARTERS

26. Headquarters of The Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person the use of any portion or premises in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying or residing under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period.

ORGANIZATION

28. Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those under the age of eighteen shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian.

29. Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge, the General Secretary of a National Society, or through the Recording Secretary; and a Diploma of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Recording Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Recording Secretary.

30. Lodges and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge, residing

within the territory of a National Society, must belong to that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the sanction of the President a member who belongs to one National Society may while retaining his membership of that National Society belong to another National Society, but he shall not be allowed to cast more than one vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society.

31. (a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society

to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge vote in favour thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for

transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge, when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas directly to the Recording Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge. In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of The Society through the Recording Secretary.

34. The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which, if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Recording Secretary, and the Seal of The Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of The Society.

35. (a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges.

(b) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) certificates of Federation to any national group of Lodges not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgment territorial division or other causes have made such Federation necessary or desirable. Any such Federation may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of Federation business.

A Federation shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules

applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Federations and to their chief executives.

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Agents to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of The Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Agent shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. All Charters of National Societies or Lodges and all Diplomas of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of The Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

37. Each Lodge and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows: In the case of a Lodge belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society; in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not situated within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31 (c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the President.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgment of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was

not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. Every National Society must appoint a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

39. The General Secretary of each National Society shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work of his Society, and at any time furnish any further information the President or General Council may desire.

40. National Societies hitherto known as Sections, which have been incorporated under the name of "The . . . Section of The T.S." before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies, for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

FINANCE

41. (a) The fees payable to the General Treasury by Lodges not comprised within the limits of any National Society are as follows: for Charter, £1; for each Diploma of Membership, 5s.; for the Annual Subscription of each Fellow, 5s.; but in the case of Lodges comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, the Annual

Subscription of each Fellow shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society within which the Lodge exists; or equivalents.

(b) New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year shall at the time of admission pay their annual subscription *pro rata* for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of £0-1-3 per quarter.

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulation of such National Society, but not less than 5s. and £1 respectively.

Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of 5s. and an Annual Subscription of £1.

43. (a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury ten per cent of the total amount received for its own National dues, and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of September of the current year, and the financial year of The Society shall close on 30th September.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41 (a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Agents to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43 (a).

44. In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge, the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge, granted by the President, shall *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas, Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such

National Society or Lodge shall vest as follows:

(a) in The Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge coming under Rule 31 (c), (except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided), and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in the National Society in which the Lodge is situated, in the case of a Lodge within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge not coming under Rule 31 (c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of The Society except for the purpose of vesting in The Society or in the National Society as the case may be the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge.

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge, as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges being not less than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of The Society.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in The Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President,

To effect any transfer of property, to which The Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to The Society.

45. The financial accounts of The Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

MEETINGS

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of The Society shall be held in India in the month of December, at such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year. Lodges desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation in March of the current year, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. At least once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held out of India, at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of The Society at his discretion.

REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of The Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such by-laws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

DIRECTORY FOR 1958

Ex-Officio Members of General Council

President: MR. N. SRI RAM

Vice-President: MR. SIDNEY A. COOK

Recording Secretary: MISS EMMA HUNT

Treasurer: MR. EDWIN N. LORD

National Societies, Federations and Presidential Agencies

Date of formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1886	United States	... Mr. James S. Perkins	... P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois
1888	England	... Mrs. A. L. Berry	... 50 Gloucester Place, London, W.1
1891	India	... Sri Rohit Mehta	... Theosophical Society, Varanasi 1
1895	Australia	... Miss Helen V. Zahara	... 29 Bligh Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
1895	Sweden	... Herr Gösta Lindström	... Östermalmmsgatan 12, Stockholm
1896	New Zealand	... Miss Clarice E. Gregory	... 10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland
1897	Netherlands	... Mr. B. Wouters	... Amsteldijk 76, Amsterdam Z
1899	France	... Monsieur Francis Brunel	... 4 Square Rapp, Paris VII
1902	Italy	... Dr. Giuseppe Filipponio	... Via della Brianza 8, Rome
1902	Germany	... Direktor Martin Boyken	... Hagenau 15, Hamburg 23
1905	Cuba	... Señor Armando Alfonso Ledón	... P.O. Box 365, Habana
1907	Hungary	...	...
1907	Finland	... Miss Signe Rosvall	... Vironkatu 7C, Helsinki
1908	Russia	...	...
1909	Czechoslovakia	...	...
1909	Southern Africa	... Mr. I. G. Mitford-Barberton	... P. O. Box 2284, Cape Town
1910	Scotland	... Mrs. Jean Allan	... 17 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow, C.4
1910	Switzerland	... Madame Claire Wyss	... Bruderholzstrasse 88, Basle
1911	Belgium	... Monsieur Th. Chapellier	... 334 Rue Vanderkindere, Uccle-Bruxelles
1912	Indonesia	... Mr. Soemardjo	... Blavatskypark 5, Merdeka-Barat 17, Djakarta
1912	Burma	... U Po Lat	... No. 102, 49th Street, Rangoon
1912	Austria	... Herr F. Schleifer	... Paracelsusgasse 4, T. 6, Vienna III/40
1913	Norway	... Mr. Ernst Nielsen	... Oscars gate 11, Oslo N. V.
1918	Egypt *	... Mr. Zaki Awad	... (President, "Hikmet El Kadima" Lodge), 18 Emad El Din Street, Cairo
1918	Denmark	... Herr J. H. Möller	... Strandvejen 130a, Aarhus
1919	Ireland	... Mrs. Evelyn O. Hornidge	... 31 Pembroke Road, Dublin
1919	Mexico	... Señor Adolfo de la Peña Gil	... Iturbide 28, Mexico D. F.
1919	Canada	... Lt.-Col. E. L. Thomson, D.S.O.	... 52 Isabella Street, Toronto 5, Ont.
1920	Argentina	... Señor Nazareno E. Rimini	... Casilla Correo No. 238, Rosario (Pcia. Santa Fe)
1920	Chile	... Señor Ricardo Michell A.-P.	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1920	Brazil	... Tenente Armando Sales	... Rua Anita Garibaldi 29, 11° andar, Sao Paulo
1920	Bulgaria	...	...
1921	Iceland	... Mr. Sigvaldi Hjálmarsson	... Ingólfsstr. 22, Reykjavik
1921	Spain	...	...
1921	Portugal	... Mr. Félix Bermudes	... Rua Passos Manoel 20, Lisbon
1922	Wales	... Miss E. Claudia Owen	... 10 Park Place, Cardiff

* No Section; Lodge only.

Date of formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1923	Poland	...	...
1925	Uruguay	... Señor Anibal Lissardy	... Palacio Diaz, 18 de Julio 1333, Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico	... Señora Esperanza C. Hopgood	Box 8774, Fernandez Juncos, Santurce, San Juan
1925	Rumania	...	...
1925	Yugoslavia	...	...
1926	Ceylon	... Mr. N. K. Choksy, Q.C.	... Roshanara, 20 Clifford Road, Green Path, Colpetty, Colombo 3
1928	Greece	... Mr. Timos Vratsanos	... Patisision 204, Athens (8)
1929	Central America	... Señor José Joaquín Ulloa	... P.O. Box 797, San José, Costa Rica
1929	Paraguay	...	...
1929	Peru	...	...
1933	Philippines	... Cdr. Jose R. Zulueta	... Corner Iba and P. Florentino Sts., Quezon City
1937	Colombia	... Señorita Corina Martínez Sanders	... Apartado Postal 539, Bogotá
1947	East Africa	... Mr. Vallabhdas H. Kapadia	... P.O. Box 354, Zanzibar
1948	Pakistan *	... Mrs. Gool K. Minwalla	... Noonan Road, Karachi 3
1948	Malaya and Singapore †	... Dr. C. H. Yeang	... 88 China St., Penang
1949	Northern Ireland †	... Dr. Hugh Shearman	... 18 Brookhill Ave., Belfast
1950	State of Israel *	... Mr. Hans Zeuger	... P.O. Box 1264, Jerusalem
1951	Japan	...	...
1952	Viet-Nam	... Mr. Pham-Ngoc-Da	... Directeur de l'Ecole des Filles, Chaudoc, Sud Viet-Nam
1953	Venezuela	... Señor Pablo Bonilla T.	... Apartado 2907, Caracas
1956	West Africa †	... Mr. K. Brakatu Ateko	... P.O. Box 720, Accra, Ghana
European Federation (of National Societies in Europe, formed 1903)		... Mr. J. E. van Dissel	... Achelsedijk 290, Valkenswaard, The Netherlands
Canadian Federation (attached to Headquarters, Adyar, 1924)		... Miss Joan S. Morris	... 1786 Broadway West, Vancouver, B.C.

Additional Members of the General Council

MR. R. M. ALPAIWALLA, 179 Lamington Cross Road, Bombay 7 (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

MR. J. E. VAN DISSEL, Achelsedijk 290, Valkenswaard, The Netherlands (for 1957, 1958 and 1959).

DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

MR. H. S. L. POLAK, 49 Earls Ave., Folkestone, England (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

DR. HUGH SHEARMAN, 36 Cliftonville Road, Belfast, United Kingdom (for 1957, 1958 and 1959).

SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1958, 1959 and 1960).

MISS ANN KERR, Assistant Recording Secretary, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1957, 1958 and 1959).

MR. GEOFFREY HODSON, The Theosophical Society, 10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, New Zealand (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

MR. C. R. GROVES, 68 Burlington Avenue, Kew Gardens, Surrey, England (for 1957, 1958 and 1959).

* Presidential Agency } Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries are not members of the
 † Federation } General Council.

MINUTES

Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society, held in the H.P.B.

Room at Headquarters, Adyar, on Wednesday, 25th December 1957

at 2.00 p.m. and on Saturday, 28th December 1957 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT:

Mr. N. Sri Ram	..	<i>President (in the Chair). Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in England, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Finland, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Scotland and for Mr. H. S. L. Polak and Mr. C. R. Groves, Additional Members.</i>
Miss Emma Hunt	..	<i>Recording Secretary.</i>
Mr. Edwin N. Lord	..	<i>Treasurer.</i>
Mr. James S. Perkins	..	<i>General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in America and Proxy for the Vice-President, Mr. Sidney A. Cook.</i>
Mr. Rohit Mehta	..	<i>General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in India and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Burma.</i>
Mr. N. K. Choksy	..	<i>General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Ceylon.</i>
Mr. V. H. Kapadia	..	<i>General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in East Africa.</i>
Mr. R. M. Alpaiwalla	..	<i>Additional Member.</i>
Miss Ann Kerr	..	<i>Additional Member.</i>
Srimati Rukmini Devi	..	<i>Additional Member.</i>

1. *Confirmation of Minutes.*—The Minutes of the Meeting of 1st January 1957, having been circulated to the Members of the General Council, were taken as read and were adopted and signed.

2. *Matters arising out of the Minutes:*

(a) *The Theosophical Society in France.*—The President stated that Mr. J. E. van Dissel had contacted the dissidents who had left the Section and had since organized themselves into an independent Association named Centre d'Etudes Théosophiques and registered under the French law. As a result of Mr. van Dissel's talks and exchanges of letters with them, the position seems to be as follows: Mr. van Dissel would like the Association to be affiliated to Adyar under Rule 35(b) of the

Rules of the Society; if this is not possible, he is even now of the opinion that any, among those who have left the French Section on account of the controversies of the last eight years, who ask for direct affiliation to Adyar should be individually affiliated. The President read out portions from a letter received by Mr. van Dissel, stating the conditions on which the dissidents (or the main group among them) would come back into the Society. The important sentence in it runs thus: "My friends and I are ready to study every reasonable proposition; on the other hand we are absolutely decided only to accept a solution that would respect our autonomy and in no way connect us with the French Section." This was discussed by the General Council from different angles.

The view of the General Council, including Mr. N. K. Choksy, our legal adviser, was that there is no provision in our Constitution for affiliating an independent organization like the Centre d'Etudes Théosophiques which is outside the Theosophical Society. Rule 35(b) refers only to Lodges inside the Society asking to be federated. Also, the Council was of the opinion that it would not be advisable to affiliate individually a large group, as that would create complications, though it might be possible to affiliate a few if the reasons given in their cases were sufficiently weighty. The General Council suggested that Mr. van Dissel might be informed of these views. The Council also expressed the opinion that the only proper course conducive to harmony and solidarity, was for the dissidents to rejoin the French Section forgetting the past controversies. The Council hoped that the parties would even now come together in a friendly spirit.

(b) *The Theosophical Society in Peru*.—The President reviewed briefly the situation in Peru and stated that the work is progressing, two additional Lodges having become active during the year, bringing the total to five.

(c) *Rehabilitation and War Distress Relief*.—The urgency for the establishment of a fund for Rehabilitation and War Distress Relief having passed, this matter is in abeyance until such time as the need arises, when Mr. J. E. van Dissel will take the initiative in formulating a definite appeal.

(d) *Proposal on Rule 35(b)*.—The proposal that Rule 35(b) be amended so as to make it unnecessary when forming a Federation that Lodges should be in the same country was discussed by the Council.

It was decided that since there is at present no situation of the kind arising, the proposal be held over for the time being.

3. *Amendment to Rule 10 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society*.—The voting on the four proposals sent out by the Recording Secretary on 21st February 1957, in accordance with the decision of the General Council at its meeting on 1st January 1957, resulted as follows:

Number of votes in favour		
Proposition 1	..	29
Proposition 2	..	4
Proposition 3	..	nil
Proposition 4	..	3
Invalid	..	1

The first proposal having received the highest number of votes, the Recording Secretary moved, *pro forma*, and circulated the following amendment to paragraph 2 of Rule 10, with the Agenda of the General Council meeting to be held in December 1957.

Amendment (alteration in italics):

At the expiration of this period the Recording Secretary shall place all the nominations received along with the relevant papers before the Executive Committee at a meeting specially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. All nominations for which the consent of the nominated member has not been filed in the office of the Recording Secretary within the period of two months just preceding shall be rejected as invalid. The rest shall be counted and the names of those receiving the three highest number of nominations, (or any lesser number of names, if less than three are nominated) together with any others who have been nominated by not less than half the members of the General Council, but after eliminating any who in the meantime have died or who have withdrawn their consent to nomination and subject only to the provisions of the next following paragraph, shall be those to be voted upon. *In the event of the death or withdrawal of any one of the three receiving the highest number of nominations the name of the next on the list receiving the highest number of nominations shall be substituted.* The list made by the Executive Committee shall not be subject to challenge.

The Recording Secretary reported the result of the voting as follows:

In Favour	..	37
Against	..	1

The Amendment having obtained the required number of votes was declared adopted.

4. *Further Amendments to Rule 10.*—Proposals received for further amendments to Rule 10 were discussed by the members of the Council.

The meeting then adjourned until Saturday, 28th December.

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING RESUMED

Saturday 28th December at 10 a.m.

(Members present as in first session)

4. *Resumption of discussion on Rule 10.*—Discussions on proposed amendments to Rule 10 were resumed. The amendments concerned were:

1. Points for clarification received from members of the General Council.
2. Changes necessary consequent on the recent alteration in paragraph 2 regarding withdrawals of nominees.
3. Provision to be made in the Rule to cover the event of one or more nominees receiving equal numbers of votes.

The necessary changes were decided upon and confirmed in principle. The President, together with the Society's officers and legal adviser, will frame the proposed changes in suitable language, and will put them forward for voting when the Agenda for the December 1958 General Council meeting is sent out in August 1958.

Age of voter-members.—A suggestion that members under the age of eighteen years should not be allowed to vote was put forward. It was held over for future consideration.

Para 6.—A suggestion that Rule 10 should be changed to provide that a President should take office 30 days after the results of the election were announced was brought forward but was not recommended.

5. *Amendment to Rule 28 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society.*—

Rule 28 (alteration in italics):

Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those under the age of *eighteen* shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian.

In Favour	..	35
Against	..	2

The Amendment having obtained the required number of votes was declared adopted.

The General Council resolved that legal opinion should be taken regarding Dr. Hugh Shearman's question that when the age of majority is required in any country, and the courts are strict in regard to such legal formalities as the right of parents in the religious upbringing of their children, a Section or Federation might retain the age of majority in its rules.

6. *Election of One (1) Additional Member to the General Council for the years 1958, 1959 and 1960.*—Srimati Rukmini Devi, having received 38 votes, was declared elected as an Additional Member to the General Council for the years 1958, 1959 and 1960.

7. *The Treasurer's Report for 1956-57.*—The audited financial statements of the Society for the official year ended 30th September 1957, presented by the Hony. Treasurer with his report and recommended for adoption by the Executive Committee, were given consideration and approved.

8. *The Budget for 1957-58.*—The Budget estimates for the year ending 30th September 1958, passed by the Executive Committee at a meeting held on 24th December 1957, were adopted as detailed:

THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1957-58

EXPENSE	Budget for 1956-'57	Actuals for 1956-'57	Budget for 1957-'58	INCOME	Budget for 1956-'57	Actuals for 1956-'57	Budget for 1957-'58
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and Wages ...	53,500	37,689	38,000	Rent ...	50,000	51,678	50,000
Repairs and Renewals ...	30,000	41,866	30,000	Fees and Dues ...	25,000	27,419	25,000
Garden Expenses ...	40,840	42,817	46,400	Conservancy Charges ...	1,400	1,212	1,200
Light and Water ...	3,500	3,691	3,500	Garden Income ...	34,840	35,725	40,100
Miscellaneous ...	7,000	6,987	7,000	Casuarina ...	4,000	5,501	4,000
Postages, Telegrams and Telephone ...	3,000	2,666	3,000	Administration Charges ...	7,130	7,130	7,130
Printing and Stationery ...	3,500	5,102	4,000	Interest (Gross) ...	40,000	41,948	40,040
Publications to General Secretaries ...	700	632	700	Special Departments:			
Sanitation Expenses ...	5,000	4,387	5,000	Engineering Department ...	1,25,880	1,22,672	1,19,180
Taxes ...	14,000	14,571	14,000	Vasanta Press ...	1,38,000	1,32,979	1,38,000
Interest on Funds and Accounts ...	10,000	11,685	10,000	Laundry ...	6,000	6,251	6,450
Convention ...	4,500	4,069	4,500	Donations ...		74,816	
Watch and Ward ...	13,800	12,789	14,000	Deficit ...	64,370	11,104	61,830
Contributions:							
To Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
" Dispensary ...	3,500	4,008	3,500				
" President's Travelling Fund ...	6,600	6,600	6,600				
" Museum and Archives ...	100	272	300				
" School of the Wisdom ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Bhojanasala ...	1,000	3,573	2,200				
Leadbeater Chambers ...	2,000	3,099	2,800				
Depreciation ...	18,500	18,801	18,800				
Special Departments:							
Engineering Department ...	1,25,880	1,26,666	1,19,180				
Vasanta Press ...	1,50,000	1,48,135	1,41,000				
Laundry ...	7,700	8,330	8,450				
	4,96,620	5,18,435	4,92,930		4,96,620	5,18,435	4,92,930

For The Theosophical Society,
EDWIN N. LORD,
Hony. Treasurer.

9. *The appointment of Auditors for 1957-58.*—It was resolved that Messrs. V. Soundararajan & Co., Registered Accountants, be re-appointed Auditors for the year 1957-58 on the same remuneration and on the same terms and conditions as in the previous year.

10. *Appointment of the Executive Committee for 1958.*—The following members were appointed:

President	}	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
Vice-President		
Recording Secretary		
Treasurer		
Mrs. Radha S. Burnier		
Miss Ann Kerr		
Mr. N. A. Naganathan		
Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan		
Srimati Rukmini Devi		
Mr. S. G. Venkataramanan		

11. *Any other Business:*

(a) *Preferential Voting in a Presidential Election.*—A suggestion that preferential voting should be adopted in a Presidential election was given due consideration by the Council. Members were unanimously of the opinion that this system of voting would be too complicated in a Society of our nature including Sections all over the world.

(b) *Dr. Giuseppe Gasco.*—A letter from Dr. Gasco to the General Council, urging "energetic action for the preparation of an ethical-moral code to serve as a guide in the public school education of all Nations," was discussed. Mr. Rohit Mehta stated that all moral codes must be the result of mature thinking on the part of the individual himself and that we are doing what we can to create among people awareness of the fundamental values of life. The Council was of the opinion that the letter does not call for any action by the Council or the Society as a whole.

(c) Mr. James S. Perkins, National President of the American Section, raised the question as to whether it would be in order for his Section to use the term "certificate" instead of "diploma" when issuing one for new members.

It was decided that a certificate of membership was equivalent to a diploma, provided that the essentials were retained, such as the Society's name, date of issuing, name of member, signature of President and General Secretary.

EMMA HUNT,
Recording Secretary.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1957

			No. of Lodges	No. of Members
National Sections (Active)	..	40		
Presidential Agencies (Active)	..	2		
Federations formed under Rule 35(b)	..	3		
Total Lodges (1957)	..	1,374		
Total Membership:				
1956	..	33,904		
1957	..	33,628		
Decrease	..	276		
			No. of Lodges	No. of Members
1. United States of America	..	148	4,241	
2. England	..	111	2,918	
3. India	..	413	7,051	
4. Australia	..	17	1,216	
5. Sweden	..	19	403	
6. New Zealand	..	20	1,105	
7. Netherlands	..	37	1,630	
8. France	..	49	1,329	
9. Italy	..	32	1,123	
10. Germany	..	17	431	
11. Cuba	..	22	568	
12. Hungary	..	—	—	
13. Finland	..	22	513	
14. Russia	..	—	—	
15. Czechoslovakia	..	—	—	
16. Southern Africa	..	13	628	
17. Scotland	..	18	215	
18. Switzerland	..	12	234	
19. Belgium	..	12	373	
20. Indonesia	..	24	920	
21. Burma	..	7	73	
22. Austria	..	11	299	
23. Norway	..	9	160	
24. Egypt (Lodge only)	..	1	21 (1956)	
25. Denmark	..	13	306	
26. Ireland	..	4	47	
27. Mexico	..	26	511	
28. Canada	..	13	376	
29. Argentina	..	60	1,299	
30. Chile	..	9	150 (1956)	
31. Brazil	..	34	979	
32. Bulgaria	..	—	—	
33. Iceland	..	11	386	
34. Spain	..	—	—	
35. Portugal	..	13	200	
36. Wales	..	6	182	
37. Poland	..	—	—	
38. Uruguay	..	7	84	
39. Puerto Rico	..	7	92	
40. Rumania	..	—	—	
41. Yugoslavia	..	—	—	
42. Ceylon	..	11	129	
43. Greece	..	11	247	
44. Central America	..	9	137	
45. Paraguay	..	—	—	
46. Peru (Lodges attached to Adyar)	..	5	82	
47. Philippines	..	16	197	
48. Colombia	..	14	135	
49. East Africa	..	21	800	
50. Pakistan*	..	7	250	
51. Malaya & Singapore†	..	4	105	
52. N. Ireland†	..	3	64	
53. Viet-Nam	..	11	305	
54. State of Israel*	..	4	40	
55. Venezuela	..	9	132	
56. Japan	..	—	—	
57. West Africa†	..	4	165	
58. Canadian Federation	..	8	230 (1956)	
59. Fellows-at-large	..	—	16	
60. Lodges and members attached to Adyar:				
Bolivia	..	2	22	
Others	..	15	227	
"	..	3	282	
Total		1,374	33,628	

* Presidential Agency.

† Federation.

EMMA HUNT,
Recording Secretary.

